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Muscogee Nation News
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Community Services creates a data bank to help tribal citizens enter workforce

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is seeking qualified and skilled personnel for a Job Data Bank maintained within the Division of Community Services.

According to tribal law Title 32, Chapter 2, Section 2-104, the Local Hire Act requires the Division of Community Services to maintain a list of available and qualified skilled Creek citizens and American Indians residing within the boundaries of the Creek Nation.

Acting in accordance with this law, Della Cherry, Deputy Director of the Division of Community Services, will begin acquiring data, compiling a list, and submitting potential employees, by skill and experience, to prospective employers operating within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation jurisdiction.

"We hope all Creek citizens take this opportunity to fill out an application and get it back to us just as soon as possible," said Cherry. "With the new program, we hope to help more Creek citizens obtain employment and to create an overall better future for our people."

To be entered into the Job Data Bank, an information sheet must be completed and submitted to the office of Community Services. Applicants must provide information, such as skills, years of experience, licenses, employment history, and identification documents.

For more information, contact Community Services at: P.O Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447; (918) 732-7962, (800) 482-1979; or submit an e-mail to dmartin@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Chief Ellis assumes leadership for Inter-Tribal Council

Leadership of the Five Civilized Tribes, from left to right, are: Chief Kenneth Chambers, Seminole Nation; Chief Chad Smith, Cherokee Nation; Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Creek Nation; Chief Gregory Pyle, Choctaw Nation; and Governor Bill Anoatubby, Chickasaw Nation.

by Sara Gibson

CATOOSA — All good things come full circle; on Friday, January 14, the Inter-Tribal Council had a new chairman step into office. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief Ellis stepped into leadership to preside over the prestigious and powerful Inter-Tribal Council.

The Inter-Tribal Council is comprised of the illustrious nations of the Five Civilized Tribes: the Creek, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Cherokee and Seminole. The Five Tribes recognized the need to stand as a unit and realized the amount of power they could hold when united and as a result of various meetings held in 1949, the foundation of the present day Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes was formed. One of the founders of the establishment was Creek citizen Tom Moore, who is the father of Judge Patrick Moore.

The Constitution of the Inter-Tribal Council clearly states the objective:

"...to secure to ourselves and our descendants the rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws of the United States of America, and the state of Oklahoma; to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian race; to preserve Indian cultural values; to enhance and promote general educational opportunity among members of the Five Civilized Tribes; to seek equitable adjustments of tribal affairs; to secure and to preserve rights under Indian Treaties with the United States; and otherwise to promote the common welfare of the American Indians..."

There are over 450,000 members enrolled in the Five Civilized Tribes. When an issue is proposed and all Five Tribes have a concern they must confront, the amount of political clout the tribes carry is very powerful. With all five tribal leaders working together, their possibilities are endless.

The Inter-Tribal Council meeting is open to all. Even tribes outside of the five can attend, however, due to the nature and position each of the Five Tribes hold, it's usually just the five who are in attendance.

The general council of the Inter-Tribal Council consists of five members from each tribe. For the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the general council consists of Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Speaker Thomas Yahola, Second Speaker Richard Berryhill and Judge Patrick Moore.

"The tribes have a good relationship and have been extremely helpful to each other. I can call on one (Chief) and they will return my call even if they are out of state" Chief Ellis stated.

Chief Ellis assumes the position of Chairman from Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. Chief Ellis will serve as Chairman for a term of 1 year.

Thanks to Twin Hills Community Center

Editor:

The Family Violence Prevention Program at Children and Family Services would like to extend much thanks to the Twin Hills Community Center. They recently provided a Christmas food basket including a turkey, fruit, and many canned goods for one of our domestic violence victims and their family. It was needed and greatly appreciated! Thank You for your good heartedness.

Lisa Worthley, Okmulgee

Family remembers loved one

Editor:

It's been a year and 10 months since the loss of our father Edmond Lowe, but we still feel his presence. During the time of his battle in the hospital, we still cannot get over how all the many churches, preachers, Christians, friends, relatives and everyone else just came to give a word or a hug, encouragement, and sympathy to our dad, family, and relatives.

On behalf of our family and mother, we are still thanking everyone who came to us, helped us and prayed for us. Thank you all for services, flowers, prayers, cards, time, food, encouraging words, songs and fellowship. Thanks to all the churches and preachers who took their time to visit our dad and everyone else who gave their time for our family, even if it was just to come and shake our hands, as some of the families did. If it weren't for your comfort behind God's hands, we couldn't have come through so well. So again, thank you all for all you've done, especially the Creek Nation Principal Chief and Second Chief, Funeral Home, church and all the preachers.

Mvto

The Lowe Family

Local church gives thanks

Editor:

On behalf of the Trenton Indian Baptist Church, we thank Donna Martin and the Creek Nation for the monetary gifts, donations and time for our members and community. Thanks to you all, our members and community had a wonderful time and appreciated all that was received, our turnout was a blessing.

Once again thank you for the Christmas blessings. Not only our church, but the High Priest above, will lay many blessings to you all.

Mvto

Trenton Indian Baptist Church members, Hanna

Organization thanks communications staff

Editor:

I didn't get a chance to tell you after our meeting how much I appreciate your preparing the Power Point Project for us.

You did a superb job and please pass on our thanks to the girls who worked on it. Your work made our presentation go very well and was exactly the thing that we needed to present our purpose of the meeting.

Hope to see you again.

Regards,

Scott Roberts, Oklahoma City

December District Court filings

Marriage License:
- None

Protective Orders:
- Johnson: Aletha v. Johnson: Aaron

Criminal - Felonies:
- None

Criminal - Misdemeanor
- None

Traffic:
- MCN v. Pierce: Rusty
  No Driver's License
- MCN v. Navoh: Aryan
  DUS
- MCN v. Fipps: Donald
  Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Somez: Eugenia
  Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Beasley: Anthony
  Disorderly Conduct

Family Domestic:
None

Divorce:
- Shepherd: Patricia v. Shepherd: Justin
- Thomas: Patricia v. Thomas: Adam
- Morence: Rebecca v. Morence: Jesse
- Beaver: Sally v. Beaver: Mike

Civil/ Small Claims:
- Paquin: Twyla v. Paquin: Sylvester and Blackbear: Farrell
  Petition to Establish Paternity
- Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. West: Carl and Barbara
  Foreign Judgment
- MCN v. Dixon: Christina
  Petition
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Folson: Rebecca
  Foreign Judgment
- Royal Finance v. Buckley: Sussie
  Small Claims
- Royal Finance v. Walker: Vanessa
  Small Claims
- Anderson: Gina v. Hartley: Michael
  Petition to Establish Paternity

Muscogee Nation News

Members of the following two associations:

Native American Journalist Association

The National Association of Photoshop Professionals

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Office of the Principal Chief...

by A.D. Ellis

Today is January 5, 2005 and one year ago today at 6:00 a.m., in the morning, I took my oath as the new Principal Chief. This had to be at such an early hour because I had to catch a plane for Washington D.C. at 8 a.m. My entire first week was working in D.C. to secure work and improvement that would benefit our Nation. Times have changed so much this first year and the Nation is rapidly moving toward a very progressive future.

Indian Nations in Oklahoma are finally becoming a force both in the political process, business and industry. Even in the area surrounding Okmulgee where our capitol is located, community city and state officials are eager to be involved and working with the Creeks. What's good for our Nation is also good for Oklahoma.

Many projects have been successful in the last year and many new one's are being built or now in operation.

I now realize that a new tribal leader has to deal with much controversy during their first year in office. You do the best you can for the Nation as a whole, ignore the resistance from people who want to destroy instead of improve & realize that the majority of Creek people wanted you here.

I predict a greater year ahead. The Coweta Clinic will be finished in 2005. The new Hotel-Casino in Tulsa will be under construction on Riverside Drive, and a new Class III Gaming Compact will allow us to increase revenue income and improve direct client services. A new all purpose basketball gym, fitness center plus a new office of tourism and recreation to put the omniplex to full time use year round. The new industrial park dedicated last month should be ready for businesses this summer. The new Tribal Transit System will begin buying buses this year to start transporting our citizens according to manager, Mr. Ben Chaney. This year is a very important time for our Tribal University with the Board of Regents in place and planning under way to expand.

There is still a overwhelming need for health care and more funding. We never have enough money and therefore many people are left having huge doctor's bills.

Many, many people come in or call my office about medical bills or priority decisions. My office has nothing to do with our health system. They are governed by a 7 member Board of Directors who report to the National Council committee. I'm always a good listener but authority is limited.

I will give my yearly State of the Nation Address at the regular council meeting the 29th of January in the Mound building and I invite everyone.

Our future, the future of our Nation and its people will be the topic of discussion. This is also the election year for all National Council Representatives. I urge all citizens to exercise your voting privilege to elect who you think serves or will serve this nation for the best interest of all. *Mvto!*

Quote of the month: *"Rudeness is the weak man's imitation of strength."*

Second opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

I trust most of you had a joyous Christmas and a happy New Year. I know that there are some who are still grieving because they lost a loved one and our prayers continue to be with you.

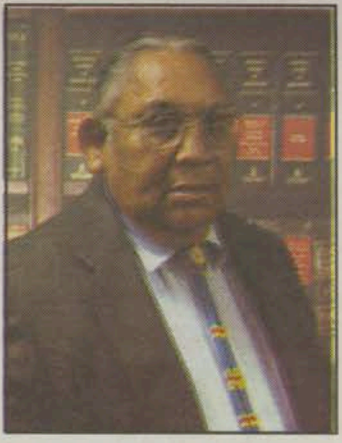
Christmas is supposed to be a time when we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus. However, it seems that we have been conditioned to celebrate this time for other things. This season is to be a joyous one. Every since our childhood, we have grown use to Christmas as a time to exchange gifts with our families and friends.

I'm reminded of a time when there was a promising young man who had six children and loved to be around children. His plans were to have several children and he did have a good start, but his life was cut short New Year's Eve. He knew he was behind on his rent payment, but he was only able to come up with a partial payment and the rest would be forthcoming the following week. He took his partial payment to his landlord and it was rejected. He probably wasn't able to do much for his children because he hadn't been working. He saw everyone else having a wonderful time, but he was facing eviction. What a way to start a New Year. I know that there are probably more things surrounding his death.

Society has condition our young people that if they don't give something to their children on Christmas; it doesn't make them much of a father or a man. When he tried to make a partial payment; the rejection was more or less a slap in the face. This young man probably had much pride and didn't want to bother anyone else for help. He probably felt that he was at a dead end.

The only thing that he could probably give his children was a hug every time he would see them. I know that he took them to church. How many more of our youth are out there that need help but won't ask. He gave the best he had; a hug and Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE CONTINUATION OF THE STORY AS RELATED BY CHIKILLI: "The Cussitaws said they would try to kill the beast. They dug a pit and stretched over it a net mad of hickory-bark. They then laid a number of branches, crosswise, so that the lion could not follow them, and, going to the place where he lay, they threw a rattle into his den. The lion rushed forth in great anger, and pursued them through the branches. Then they thought it better that one should die rather than all; so they took a motherless child, and threw it before the lion as he came near the pit. The lion rushed at it, and fell in the pit, over which they threw the net, and killed him with blazing pine-wood. His bones, however, they keep to this day; on one side, they are red, on the other, blue."



"The lion used to come every seventh day to kill the people; therefore, they remained there seven days after they had killed him. In remembrance of him, when they prepare for War, they fast six days and start on the seventh. If they take his bones with them, they have good fortune."

"After four years they left the Coosaws, and came to a river which they called Nowphawpe, now Callasi-hutche (footnote: A misprint for Tallasi-hutche.). There they tarried two years; and, as they had no corn, they lived on roots and fishes, and made bows, pointing the arrows with beaver teeth and flint-stones, and for knives they used split canes."

"They left this place, and came to a creek, called Wattoolahawka-hutche (footnote: Watula, sandhill crane; haki, sound, noise; hatchee, creek, river.), Whooping-creek, so called from the whooping cranes, a great many being there; they slept there one night. They next came to a river, in which there was a waterfall; this they named the Owatunka-river (footnote: Owatamka River.). The next day they reached another river, which they called the Aphoosa pheeskaw (footnote: Cf. afuswa, thread; fesketa, to sprinkle, scatter out.)."

"The following day they crossed it, and came to a high mountain, where people who, they believed, were the same who made the white path. They, therefore, made white arrows and shot at them, to see if they were good people. But the people took their white arrows, painted them red, and shot them back. When they showed these to their chief, he said that it was not a good sign; if the arrows returned had been white, they could have gone there and brought food for their children, but as they were red they must not go. Nevertheless, some of them went to see what sort of people they were, and found their houses deserted. They also saw a trail which led into the river; and, as they could not see the trail on the opposite bank, they believed that the people had gone into the river, and would not again come forth."

"At that place is a mountain, called Moterell, which makes a noise like beating on a drum; and they think this people live there. They hear this noise on all sides when they go to war."

"They went along the river, till they came to a waterfall, where they saw great rocks, and on the rocks were bows lying; and they believed the people who made the white path had been there."

"They always have, on their journeys, two scouts who go before the main body. These scouts ascended a high mountain and saw a town. They shot white arrows into the town; but the people of the town shot back red arrows. Then the Cussitaws became angry, and determined to attack the town, and each one have a house when it was captured."

"They threw stones into the river until they could cross it, and took the town (the people had flattened heads), and killed all

please see **SECOND**..., page 8

Education

Student of the month

HOLDENVILLE — Isiah Caine Lowe, a first grader at Ethel M. Reed Elementary School in Holdenville, was selected as the October Student of the Month.

He is in Mrs. Patterson's class and wants to be a zookeeper when he grows up.

He is the son of Rhonda Lowe of Holdenville.

STUDENT MONTH

Lowe

Births

Ashlinn Storm Hicks

ADAIR — Ashlinn Storm Hicks was born on July 21 to Josh and Jami Hicks. She weighed 8 lbs and 5 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Jackie and Robert Ehly of Pryor.

Paternal grandparents are Tracy and Beatrice Scates of Chouteau.

Paternal great-grandparents are Edna Mitchell of Henryetta and the late Charlie Hicks Sr. of Weleetka.

Paternal great-great-grand mother was the late Sarah Harjo of Dustin.

A. Hicks

Birthdays

July turns nine with a Spiderman theme

TULSA — Troy July celebrated his ninth birthday on Dec. 18 with his family. His sister, Tiffany and Matthew Miller took him to Laser Quest.

He is the son of Sonya July and Troy Carter of Checotah.

Maternal grandparents are Clara and the late Joe July of Checotah.

Paternal grandmother is the late Laura Carter.

He has two sisters, Tiffany and Laura; one brother, Sunjun.

July

Girl celebrate 4th birthday with family and friends

ADAIR—Sierra Rain Hicks celebrated her 4th birthday on Sept. 19 with family and friends. Her birthday cake was a Princess theme. She is the daughter of Josh and Jami Hicks and has a little sister named Ashlinn Hicks.

Maternal grandparents are Jackie and Robert Ehly of Pryor.

Paternal grandparents are Tracy and Beatrice Scates of Chouteau.

Paternal great grandparents are Edna Mitchell of Henryetta and the late Charlie Hicks, Sr. of Weleetka.

Paternal great-great-grandmother was the late Sarah Harjo of Dustin.

S. Hicks

Randall celebrates birthday with family and friends

COWETA — Avery Okema Randall celebrated her first birthday on Oct. 28 with family and friends.

She is the daughter of Tyler and Krysta Randall.

Her grandparents are Harold and Linda Ward of Moore and Rod and Jennifer Randall of Broken Arrow.

She has one brother, Bryant and one sister, Cameron.

Randall

Chisholm celebrates 6th birthday

RAINFORD — Gina Don Chisholm turned 6 years old on December 23rd. Her Scooby-Doo theme birthday party was celebrated on Christmas Day in Raiford at the home of her great-aunt Betty Lane.

Gina Don is a Creek citizen of Creek-Cherokee descent and attends kindergarten at Okay Elementary and church at First Baptist of Okay. Gina is the daughter of Donald Chisholm and Velma Carder.

Paternal grandmother is Nancy Chisholm of Stidham, paternal great-grandparents are the late Coweta and Rosanna Chisholm of Raiford.

Maternal grandparents are the late Cecil and Peggy Carder, Sr. of Okmulgee, maternal great-grandparents are the late Buddy and Hattie Harjo, Sr. of Weleetka.

Chisholm

Society

Littlecreek to serve on Regional Advisory Committee

OKEMAH— The Department of Education and the CNA Corporation has announced the selection of Valeria Littlecreek to serve on the Southwest Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). This is one of ten RACs established by the U.S. Congress to inform the U.S. Secretary of Education on the technical assistance needs for education in the nation. The CNAC Education Center is supporting the work for the Department of Education.

Littlecreek

Each RAC will need to submit a final report to the U.S. Secretary of Education in April 2005.

Littlecreek has 28 years of experience working in education at the international, federal, state and local levels. She holds a B.S. degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in school counseling from Oklahoma State University and hopes to complete her doctoral degree in school leadership in the spring also from OSU.

She is the current school counselor for Okemah Middle School, with 12 years of total experience with Okemah Public schools.

Checotah Indian Community holds their first annual powwow

EUFAULA — Checotah Indian Community held their first annual powwow at Lake Eufaula State Park, Area #2 on Oct. 16 and 17.

The powwow was officially called the "Three Rivers Intertribal Gathering." Prize money for the event totaled $40,000.

The drum contest was a $3,000 winner-take-all event. Six drum groups competed: Redland, Kellyville; Smokey Creek, Shawnee; Rose Hill, Cushing; South 40, Carnegie; Native Eagle; and Battle River, Redby, MN.

A total of 210 registered dancers and several intertribal dancers participated in the inaugural event. Several hundred people were in attendance and pledges have been made for upcoming years.

Muscogee Creek Nation Division of Health: Contract Health Services

This is a Special Program Highlight at the request of the MCN Division of Health Chief Medical Officer Dr. Lawrence Vark

OKMULGEE — Contract Health Services (CHS) is a federally funded program to assist eligible patients financially with specialized care that is not directly available from Creek Nation Clinics or Creek Nation Community Hospital. Assistance depends on eligibility, residence, medical priorities, alternate resources, and availability of funding.

The Creek Nation CHS program also contracts with specialty care physicians, hospitals, diagnostic groups and other health care providers to treat our patients at prearranged fees.

The Contract Health Service Program is funded yearly with federal funds by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Not all referrals for specialty care can be paid for by Creek Nation Contract Health Services. Because the funding they receive they cannot accommodate every need of every patient, medical priorities have been established for determining which referrals can be authorized for payment.

Medical priorities for the Creek Nation CHS are:

- Life Threatening Obstetrical Complications/ Emergencies: Medical care for obstetrical patients presenting with obstetrical conditions which appear to pose serious threat to life of patient or unborn child.

Eligibility for Creek Nation Contract Health Services must be established through Contract Health Service (CHS).

1. Must be eligible for direct patient care services provided by tribally operated Clinics and / or IHS facilities. An individual is eligible if they are of Indian descent and a member of a federally recognized tribe;

2. Non-Indians may be eligible in these situations:

A non-Indian woman who is pregnant with an eligible Indian's child through pregnancy and postpartum; A non-Indian member of an eligible Indian's household who resides within the CN service area is eligible for CHS if the Medical Officer in charge determines that services are necessary to control a public health hazard or an acute infectious disease; A non-Indian under 19 years old who is an adopted child, stepchild, foster child, legal ward or orphan of an eligible Indian.

3. Patient must reside within the Creek Nation CHS service area. (Please see map identifying the service boundary). The CHS boundary is established by the Indian Health Service and does not include the entire Creek Nation jurisdictional area.

4. Out-of-state residents are not eligible for CHS funds.

5. You must use all other resources to pay for your medical care, such as Medicare, Medicaid, VA, Worker's Comp, Title 19, Sooner Care, automobile insurance, and / or group health insurance.

6. CHS is a Payor of last resort

The priority system helps patients have equal opportunity for specialty services and to make sure the funds are used to give the best possible benefits.

- Life Threatening Emergencies: Medical care for conditions which are felt to be an imminent threat to life, for which treatment at Creek Nation Community Hospital or an IHS facility is not appropriate or available.
- Organ/ Limb Threatening Emergencies: Medical care for patients presenting with conditions thought to pose an imminent threat to an organ or limb, where treatment at Creek Nation Community Hospital or an IHS facility is not appropriate or available.
- Treatment of Curable Cancers in Childhood: Medical care for curable cancers in minors (age as defined by law).
- Treatment of Curable Cancers in Adults: Medical care for curable cancers in adult patient (age as defined by law).
- Acute Orthopedic injuries: Medical care for orthopedic injuries in adults (age as defined by law), where delay of such treatment would result in significant loss of function.
- Urgent Consultative/ Diagnostic Studies: Medical care ordered by a health care provider that is necessary for definitive diagnosis/treatment of a condition, when it is anticipated that delay of such would not result in loss of a condition, when it is anticipated that delay of such would not result in loss of life/limb/organ, but delay might potentially lead to complications later in life.
- Class 1 Palliative Cancer Treatment: Treatment for cancer that could prolong life, but is not a curative. Extension of life expectancy should be anticipated to be 2 years or longer.
- Developmental Delays: Provider services necessary for the definitive diagnosis of physical or mental conditions in pediatric patients which could impede or prevent normal development; when clinical signs are present to indicate possible presence of such conditions.
- IHS: Services available at an IHS facility
- Other Consults and Diagnostic Studies: Consults/diagnostic studies which are necessary for the definitive diagnosis of a condition.
- Other Orthopedic Problem: Medical care of orthopedic conditions that are not thought to result in significant loss of function; cosmetic deformity may be present.
- 72 hour/ 30 days Emergency Call in: Care for which referral is not done Patient call-in to report medical issues.
- Rehabilitative Services (Inpatient): All services defined as rehabilitative, exclusive of those provided by Creek Nation Community Hospital or other IHS facility.
- Rehabilitative Services (Inpatient): See above- 72 hour/ 30 day Emergency Call in.
- Transplant: Organ transplant authorized by qualified providers. Subject to available funding.

When services are not available at Creek Nation Clinics and hospital or at IHS facility where the patient regularly receives care, a physician will initiate a referral to a contract specialty provider.

Patient Benefits Coordinator at each clinic prepares all referrals to submit weekly for the CHS Review Committee. The Review Committee meets every week. They have an average of 70 requisitions on a weekly basis. Referrals from all clinics are reviewed and categorize in accordance with approved Creek Nation CHS medical priorities. Individual referrals are prioritized with a Medical Priority. Referrals are then ranked within the priority.

Referral steps are:

1 Nurse/Provider will direct you to the CHS Patient Benefits Coordinator's office and your chart & referral will be taken to CHS office.

2 Patient Benefits Coordinators will counsel with you regarding eligibility, alternate resources such as Medicare, Medicaid, insurance, VA, Workman's Comp, Sooner Care, and Title 19, and schedules the appointment, if necessary.

3 Patient will need a referral from his or her doctor for additional procedures, tests, follow-up exams, and or hospitalization.

4 If patient schedules or reschedules an appointment without proper CHS authorization, the patient will be responsible for payment.

5 Get to know your Patient Benefits Coordinator at the clinic you normally use to help with any schedules and questions regarding Contract Health Services.

Funds approval is based on weekly allocation and applied to the referrals in the order they have been prioritized and ranked.

Deferred referrals are defined as service requested and meets medical priority, but no funds are available to pay for them. Deferred referrals will be resubmitted for review up to three consecutive weeks for further consideration for payment of services and prioritized and ranked with new referrals presented at those meetings.

If your referral is denied, the patient and/or provider has 30 days from the date the denial letter is received to appeal for reconsideration. Appeal should be made in writing and mailed to: ATTN: Chief Medical Officer, Contract Health Service Office, 206 South Grand, Suite 202 Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447. If the decision is upheld, the next level of appeal can be made in writing within 30 days to: ATTN: Chief Executive Officer, Contract Health Service Office, 206 South Grand, Suite 202, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447. The CEO's decision on appeals shall constitute final administrative action.

Call-ins are reported to CHS Central Office in Okmulgee at (918) 758-2710. This call should be made when a patient has an emergency and is unable to go to the nearest Creek Nation hospital/clinic or IHS facility. The patient must call the CHS office within 72 hours after the beginning of the treatment (this 72 hour period is extended for elderly 65 and older to 30 days).

For further information, contact the Contract Health Service Office at (918) 758-2710 or visit the Contract Health Offices in Okmulgee.

New Elderly Housing Complex in use, receives first resident

by Josh Slane

The Elderly Housing Complex is no longer vacant, having received it's first resident in Rebecca Autaubo on November 30. She certainly took to the house quickly enough saying proudly, "This is my home," as she welcomed us inside.

As we walked through the rooms of her house for the first time she told us how she was looking forward to this ever since she received the letter stating she could move in. She also shared how she would go and look in the windows of the different houses, and how she got the one she wanted the most. "It seems like a dream come true," she said.

However, Rebecca would not be the only tenant for long. Five more tenants were allowed to move in during the first week of December and three more are scheduled to be moved in the second week.

Other tenants are expected to be able to move in by the end of Janurary. The complex can currently house up to 16 families.

But getting in to the housing complex isn't as easy as it seems. To be eligible, prospective elders must be over 55, though preference is given to those that are 62 or older.

Tenants must have some form of monthly income. The lease charge is based on the tenant's income, totalling 15% of their annual income spread over a year's time, with equal payments each month, with a minimum of $75 a month.

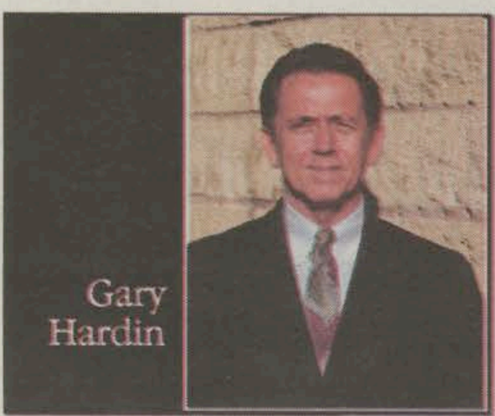
The houses in the complex are not what you would expect for only a small fee. They have 2 bed rooms, a washing machine and dryer, a range, dishwasher, refrigerator, garbage disposal, and a safe room. Some of the houses are handicap accessible.

The Elderly Complex is equipped with 24 hour security, and an Emergency Call System, which will transmit a help needed signal from their home to the office, or if the office is closed, to 911 emergency.

And as good as the complex is now, it's future is only looking up. Title 6 is planning to move over to the complex, and bring its Elderly Nutrition program, with it's noon meal. As this happens, events such as domino games, chess, checkers, and card games will take off. Also the multipurpose room is available for the tenants or guests to exercise, have health screenings or seminars, and even available to tribal members for their own functions that would require a large amount of space, such as wedding receptions. There are also plans to expand the complex from 16 apartments to 25 apartments sometime in the near future.

To learn more about the elderly housing, or to apply residence at the complex, please contact Linda Lowe, the Elderly Housing Manager, at (918) 752-3293 or e-mail her at llowe@creeknationhousing.org.

Linda Lowe, left, congratulates Rebecca Autaubo on being the first resident to move in the Elderly Housing Complex.



INVITATION TO TRIBAL MEMBERS

Gary Hardin, grandson of the late **Mary Deer Hardin**, would like to invite all tribal members, family and friends to Tulsa's newest Ford dealership. Gary has 20 years experience in assisting people with their transportation needs, If you have any questions about your next automobile purchase, new or used, please call:

918.346.6500
Toll Free: 866.312.5150

Bring this ad and receive $500 towards your purchase of any new or used car.

Joe Cooper "Who loves ya Oklahoma!" Ford TULSA, OKLAHOMA

3400 South Sheridan • Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145

Headlands Indian Health Careers Program

NORMAN — The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center is now accepting applications for its 2005 Headlands Indian Health Careers Program, to be held June 5 through July 30, 2005 on the OU Norman campus.

American Indian high school seniors and first-year college students, who are interested in pursuing a career in the health professions, are encouraged to apply for this intense eight-week enrichment program offering mini-block courses in calculus, chemistry, physics, and biology. These courses are designed to increase the students' knowledge and prepare them for the required college-level math and science course work in pre-health programs.

Students again will gain experience in the laboratory, strengthen their communication and writing skills, and attend interactive presentations at OU Health Science Center colleges of Public Health, Allied Health, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing. Field excursions to health clinics and hospitals also are included.

Travel, lodging, and meal expenses will be provided for each student accepted into the program.

Applications for the Headlands program can be found at www.headlands.ouhsc.edu or call (405) 271-2250. Application deadline is March 15, 2005.

The Headlands program is sponsored by Oklahoma Native American EXPORT Center with funding from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health.

Woman's Technology Program

MICHIGAN — The Women's Technology Program at MIT is a four week summer residence program designed to introduce high school girls to electrical engineering and computer science (EECS). Any girls who are currently a high school junior who have demonstrated math and science ability with an interest in finding out about EECS should visit their website to get more information and to get an application at http://wtp.mit.edu.

Classes are taught in a supportive environment by a staff of women MIT PhD candidates and undergraduates. The full-time academic program includes hands-on experiments and team-based projects in computer science, electrical engineering, and mathematics. No prior experience is required, but applicants typically have strong academic records, especially in math and science.

Archery Challenge

TAHLEQUAH — The Cherokee Cornstalk Society is inviting other archers to come to it's monthly games. The use of cornstalk targets and cornstalk points for arrow points are used during the competition.

The society is also planning to run a tournament in the Spring and would like the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to have a team representing the tribe present at the competition. For more information, or if you would like to be a part of, or be captain of, a Muscogee Nation team, please contact Debra Grayson at (918) 453-0794.

Child Development Community Centers awarded

HOLDENVILLE — On January 5, the Holdenville Child Development Community Center became a 2 star facility and the Okmulgee Child Development Center became a 1 star plus facility. Tonya Gordon has just received her CDA certificate.

Community Center Leaders Sworn In and Trained

OKMULGEE — The officers of the community centers were officially sworn into office on Saturday January 8 by Honorable Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court Justice Judge Amos McNac.

After the swearing in ceremony, the officers received training in various tax laws and regulations. This training was put on by the Community Research and Development Department.

Senior Spelling Bee

OKMULGEE — Senior citizens are invited to participate in a spelling bee at 2:00 p.m. on March 8 at Eastern Oklahoma Development District Area Agency on Aging, 1012 N. 38th St.

If you live in Adair, Cherokee, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Sequoyah, or Wagoner County and are 60 years old or older, you are eligible to participate.

Five places will be awarded with first and second place winners competing in the State Senior Spelling Bee on May 4 at the Oklahoma State Conference on Aging in Midwest City.

For more information or to register, contact Karen Sedberry at (918) 682-7891 or the Senior Info-Line at 1 (800) 211-2116.

In the Spirit of Resistance

VANCOUVER B.C. — Mandy Rose and Ange Sterritt will be producing their annual show, "In the Spirit of Resistance," in Vancouver B.C. on April 30, at the UBC Great Hall, The Sty–Wet–Tan at the First Nations House of Learning at UBC in Vancouver B.C.

This production will be a joint effort of The International Indigenous Youth Conference (IIYC) Secretariat and In Spirit of Resistance.

The production will be a chance for young Indigenous people from different walks of life to come together and learn not only about the IIYC Conference, which will bring 200 youth from around the world to the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Center in June 2005, but also learn how our people are working towards sustainability, autonomy, empowerment, unity, and solidarity in the midst of globalization and liberalization.

The goal of this event is that high schools, youth centers, programs, and organizations can pull together to help unite as many youth as possible.

There will be a number of traditional and contemporary performances, spoken word, speakers, and some visual presentations via film and art.

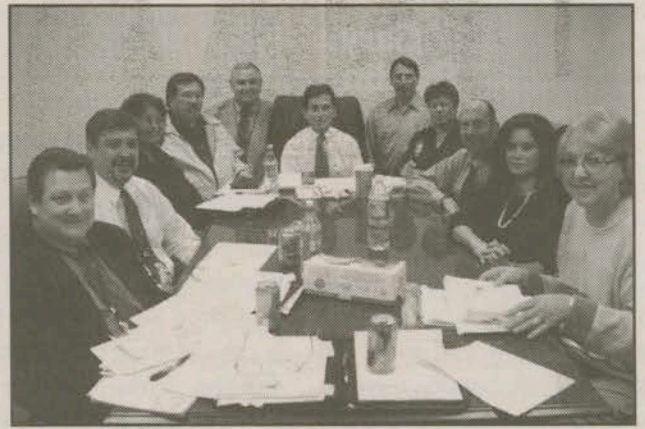
Performers and speakers will receive an honorarium. Volunteers are needed for: driving youth to and from UBC, some class 4 drivers will be needed; child care; food preparation; getting the word out electronically, via posters and by word of mouth; and set up and take down.

For more information or if you would like to volunteer, contact Ange Sterrittat (604) 562-1082.

Tribe launches first tribally funded Reintegration Program for ex-offenders

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation's Tribal and Health Administration met on December 16, to organize and launch a first tribally funded Reintegration Program for ex-offenders.

The program is designed to provide protection to society, while making available a comprehensive resource service delivery to youthful and adult offenders through collaboration and partnership of various local, state, and federal agencies. The program was spearheaded by National Council representative Keeper Johnson.



A group of 11 Tribal and Health Administration came together to discuss the structure of the Reintegration Program.

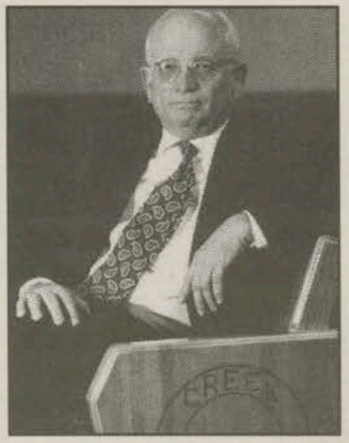
The Reintegration Program is established under Behavioral Health Services with Dr. Elise Taylor, Director. It was mentioned during the meeting it is important that all Muscogee (Creek) Nation's programs and staff need to fully support Dr. Taylor's efforts in implementing this program and Mary Lee of Vocational Rehabilitation Program to actively and aggressively conduct all business of the Reintegration Program. Dr. Vark, Acting CEO, Division of Health Administration, was also present and assisted in making this meeting a success.

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES
PRE-COLUMBIAN
SOUTHEASTERN NATIVE AMERICAN BLOWGUNS

By

Patrick E. Moore

The blowgun was a hunting weapon used by several different Native American tribes in North America and many in South and Central America. The use of the blowgun dates from the dawn of civilization, even though some current anthropologists believe the weapon was brought to the Americas from Asia approximately 300 years ago.



There is overwhelming evidence supporting the independent development of the blowgun in the Americas. Blowguns developed and used by natives in Asia were very short and blowguns developed and used in this hemisphere for millenniums were always long sometimes over 10 feet in length. There is also no plausible explanation of how a recent introduction (300 years ago) of a blowgun invented by Asians could have found its way to what is now the southeastern United States. The blowgun was in use as a hunting weapon when Spanish invaders entered the Muscogee Confederacy in 1540 and blowguns are still used by Native Americans in the deepest jungles of the Amazon basin in areas only explored by outsiders during the last 20 years.

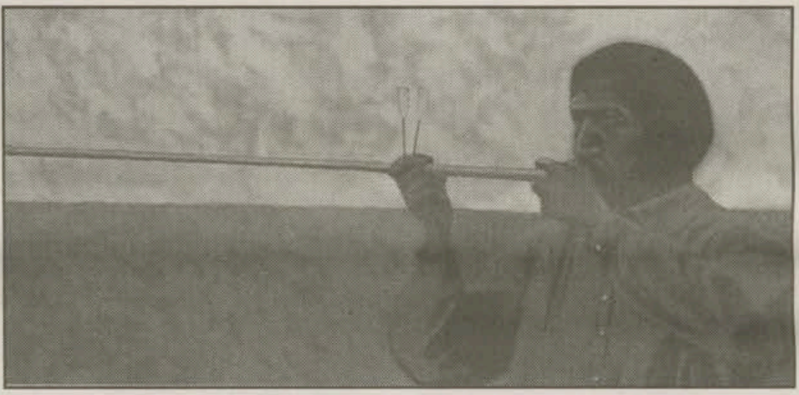
Southeastern natives had knowledge of and used the weapon but it was unknown to Native Americans from other areas of North America with the possible exception of the Hopis who today still perform a ceremony involving the blowing of a feather through a cane tube.

South American natives made use of poison darts, but North American blowgun hunters did not, the weapon was used only for hunting small game and sport, never in war.

The blowgun is a very accurate hunting device and the North American hunter did not need poison to bring down small game; in addition the blowgun is very quiet and coupled with the stalking abilities of the Native American hunter made it a very efficient hunting weapon.

The blowgun was used by the Muscogee (Creek), Choctaw, Cherokee, Iroquois and all the tribes along the gulf coast. Northern tribes used walnut and sumac when constructing their blowguns and those tribes further south preferred native cane.

The blowgun was constructed by splitting a long section of cane, removing the solid sections, gluing the sections back together and wrapping the blowgun with sinew. The small end of the cane was always the muzzle functioning much as the choke on today's shotgun. The North American blowgun was from 8 to 10 feet in length and individually decorated by its owner.



Darts were made of oak approximately 1/8 inch diameter and often at least 1 foot long. Darts for the longer (10') blowguns were sometimes thicker (3/16") and over 2 feet in length. The darts were fletched with down, tied to the dart by string and spiraling down the shaft for up to 6". The point of the dart was whittled very sharp. Along the gulf coast and in the deep south some fletching material was cotton.

Darts were carried in a small quiver very carefully made so that the darts were always protected. These quivers were very highly decorated with colorful designs of the owners choosing.

An expert could expel a dart with unbelievable speed, power and accuracy. Using a 10 foot blowgun a dart can be launched and hit a target 100 yards away with enough power to completely pierce game as large as the turkey.

Colonel Thomas McKenney, who was Superintendent of the Indian Trade Bureau & Head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the early 1800's, became intrigued with blowguns after meeting a Muscogee (Creek) boy named Mistippee in 1826. Mistippee was a mutation of the boy's real given name Benjamin. Mistippee was the son of Yoholo-Micco a powerful chief. This young Creek was an expert with the blowgun and Colonel McKenney described Mistippee's blowgun as being a hollow reed, 10 feet long using arrows that were slivers of a white wood with one end barbed and the other wrapped with thistle down.

Mistippee allowed McKenney to shoot his blow gun and McKenney reported he could launch a dart with all the speed and accuracy of a rifle ball. He also wrote that Mistippee could snuff out a candle 4 out of 5 tries and could bring down birds in flight with a single shot. There are written reports of the blowgun being used to shoot hummingbirds for use as ceremonial decorations.

The blowgun is still in use in isolated areas of North America and extensively in Central and South America today.

Second

continued from page 3

but two persons. In pursuing these they found a white dog, which they slew. They followed the two who escaped, until they came again to the white path, and saw the smoke of a town, and thought that this must be the people they had so long been seeking. This is the place where now the tribe of Palachucolas live, from whom Tomochichi is descended. (footnote: Tomochichi was chief of the Yamacraw tribe, settled where Savannah now stands when Oglethorpe established his colony.)"

"The Cussitaws continued bloody-minded; but the Palachucolas gave them black drink, as a sign of friendship, and said to them: 'Our hearts are white, and yours must be white, and you must lay down the bloody tomahawk, and show your bodies as a proof that they shall be white.' Nevertheless, they were for the tomahawk; but the Palachucolas got it by persuasion, buried it under their beds. The Palachucolas likewise gave them white feathers, and asked to have a chief in common. Since then they have always lived together."

"Some settled on one side of the river, some on the other. Those on one side are called Cussetaws, those on the other, Cowetas; yet they are one people, and the principal towns of the Upper and Lower Creeks. Nevertheless, as the Cussetaws first saw the red smoke and the red fire, and make bloody towns, they cannot yet leave their red hearts, which are, however, white on one side and red on the other. They now know that the white path was the best for them: for, although Tomochichi was a stranger, they see he has done them good; because he went to see the great King with Esquire Oglethorpe, and hear his talk, and had related it to them, and they had listened to it, and believed it." THUS ENDS CHIKILLI's Narrative.

There are a few more brief narrations concerning the origin and these will be related in the next issue. *Mvto.*

INSIDE STATE QUESTION 712: WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN?

In November 2004, the people of the state of Oklahoma expressed their opinions and voices by exercising their right to vote. There were many important issues on the ballot which had a direct impact on the Native American people of Oklahoma. One of the questions that was voted on which will effect tribes tremendously was SQ 712. The question passed by about 60 percent but do voters know what all the state question entails, what it really means and what happens now?

When important issues are voted on there is always two sides to the story. In order to better serve the public, we have broken down the issue of SQ 712 into a two part segment - pros and cons. In this month's issue we will be examining the pros with the cons to follow in next month's issue. This will allow you, the Creek Citizen to have a clearer idea of just what the passage of SQ 712 means to you.

SQ 712, also known as the Education and Jobs Referendum, is a measure that enacts the State-Tribal Gaming Act. The Act contains a Model Tribal Gaming Compact offered to federally recognized Indian Tribes. The compact term is 15 years with automatic renewal for additional successive terms. If at least 4 tribes enter into the compact, it will not only allow more gaming to tribes but it will allow the racetracks of the state to operate gaming.

What this means: Indian tribes that agree to the compact can use new types of gaming machines which will be used for gambling. The compact will allow those tribes who signed to offer card games such as video poker, blackjack and tournament-style card games as well as other non-house backed card games and electronic bingo games that work more like Las Vegas slot machines. Whereas the Act limits the number of gaming machines racetracks can use to 3 types of new games, the Act does not limit the number of machines that Native American tribes can use.

The compact is designed to have at least 4 tribes enter into it. However, once a tribe signs it, the model gaming compact becomes effective. The requirement of having 4 tribes sign is specific to racetracks. As of today, 4 tribes have already signed and the bill is now in Washington, D.C. awaiting the signature of the Secretary of Interior.

The new law is expected to bring 10,000 new electronic games to the state. Only four states would have more machines - Nevada, New Jersey, Mississippi and California. With the addition of so many games, the number of employees each casino hires will increase dramatically. The addition of so many jobs will not only benefit the tribes but will prove to be a huge step in lowering the unemployment rate for the entire state and increasing not only the economic development of the people but the overall welfare of tribes. A number of tribes who have already signed the compact, have already began to install the new machines into their casinos and have already begun hiring more people.

In regards to education, the new law is estimated to bring in $71 million per year in new revenues for education in Oklahoma. A total of 88% of the revenues will be distributed to local schools on a per student basis. The other 12% will provide college scholarships for Oklahoma students. Based on Morgan Quito's ranking for state education, Oklahoma rates 40 out of 50 states academically. Based on Nationally Education Association's findings, in regards to teachers' salaries, Oklahoma ranks 46 out of 50 in lowest wages for teachers. With these statistical findings, the entire state is affected. With the passage of SQ 712, not only the state but tribes as well are hoping the increased revenue will assist in making a much needed change in education. Our teachers will cease to look out of state for jobs and will want to work within Oklahoma providing for our students. The anticipated income will be able to provide the essential materials students require. Presently, there are quite a number of teachers that are having to pay for materials needed for their classrooms out of their own pockets.

There are many benefits to the passage of SQ 712 such as an increase in revenue for tribes, more jobs and more funding put into educational system of Oklahoma but there is also the "other side" to the story. We hope the information that has been provided has shown the *pro* to the side. In next month's issue we will examine the *con* side. There are a few tribes left who have not signed, next month you will be able to see the reasons for those concerns and just exactly why those few tribes still have not signed and the grounds for their positions.

Creek Nation Tulsa Casino proudly recognizes 2004 Employee and Supervisor of the Year

TULSA — A business is measured for success by many different factors. One of the most overlooked yet most obvious determining contributors to the success of a business are the employees. Creek Nation Tulsa Casino has acknowledged the fact and is proud to recognize two outstanding employees who have not only contributed to the achievements of the casino but more importantly have gone above and beyond in customer service. The two recipients for the award are 2004 Supervisor of the Year Ms. Judy Kious and 2004 Employee of the Year Ms. Sharry Barnes.

Judy Kious joined Creek Nation Tulsa Casino in 2001 and now serves as Supervisor of Paper Inventory. Judy is a great role model for her employees and resource to her managers. She demonstrates great leadership and resourcefulness and is always willing to go the extra mile. Judy has served as the chairperson for the employee committee for the past three years, getting all of the employees and upper management involved in the meetings and keeping them updated. She has also worked very hard getting everything together for employee events such as the Summer and Christmas parties.

Sharry Barnes joined Creek Nation Tulsa Casino in November 2003 working in the Electronic Games Department and was promoted to EG/Tech Supervisor in September 2004. Sherry has proven to be a strong employee. Sherry's customer service is always friendly, upbeat and consistent. She is on a first name basis with many regular accountability, completing the tasks in an effective and timely manner showing high work ethics.

Congratulation ladies, keep up the good work!

All gaming information must be submitted by the 7th of each month in order to run in the next month's issue.

National Indian Gaming Association Endorses Artrain USA

The National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) announced its endorsement of Artrain USA's national touring art exhibition *Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture*. The contemporary Native American exhibiton is touring coast to coast through December 2007 and will reach over 100 communities nationwide. Artrain USA is currently finishing its 2004 schedule with an eight-city Texas tour.

Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture displays more than 70 contemporary artworks by 54 living Native American artists from over 45 Native American nations. Visitors to the tours will discover the richness, complexity and breadth of contemporary Native American art while examining varying perspective on society and dispelling and confronting many stereotypes that currently define Native Americans.

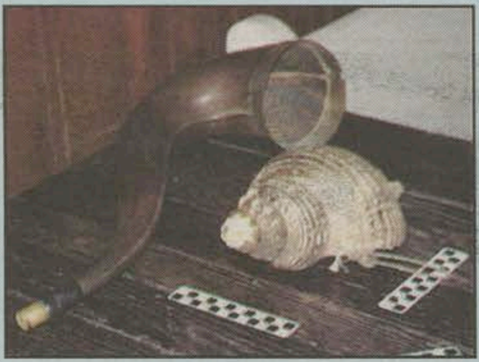
Artrain USA is a nonprofit organization originating from Ann Arbor, MI. Its mission is to enrich lives and build communities through the arts. An art museum housed in vintage rail cars that travels via the nation's railways, Artrain USA brings world class art exhibitions and art education programs to communities and their residents. Since its inception in 1971, it has welcomed more than 2.9 million visitors during 730 stops in 44 states.

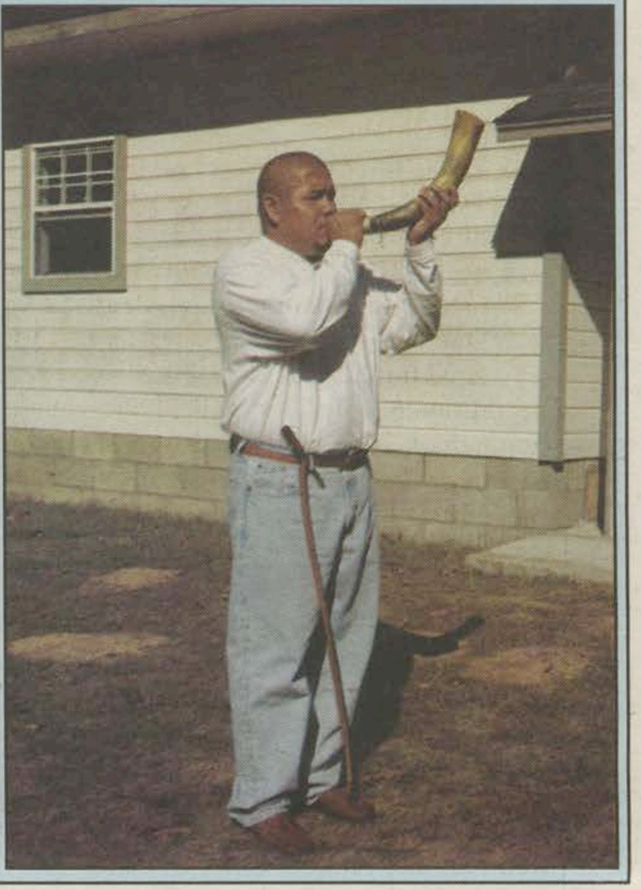
For more information about Artrain USA and to see images from *Native Views* visit Artrain USA's website at www.ArtrainUSA.org or call 1-800-ART-1971.

Creek Nation Tulsa Casino recognizes December 2004 Employee of the Month

TULSA — Deborah Barrett shows a personal interest in all of the employees, helping them to better serve their departments and make them more efficient. She also resolves conflicts on the floor and ensures our customers' visits are fun and entertaining. Deborah goes above and beyond as a Manager on Duty, keeping late hours, spending extra time to get the job done and see it through, as well as continually taking on new responsibilities. She has surpassed goals and objectives and has shown tremendous amount of initiative over and over again helping out whenever and wherever she is needed. Deborah emphasizes to the Electronic Gaming employees the importance of team building and having all departments work together. Thank you Deborah for you hard work and commitment!

A fixture in Native American churches, Shofar or ram's horn, published in Smithsonian's handbook





OKMULGEE — The Smithsonian Institution, called the Nation's attic for collecting items from American history, has just published the volume on Southeastern Indian as number 14 in its Handbook of North American Indians series of basic reference tools. In the volume on page 750 is a photograph of unique shofar horns used at Prairie Springs and at Hvtce Cvpv churches.

Ruth Trocolli, the photograph researcher at the Smithsonian contacted Blue Clark at Oklahoma City University. She requested his help in obtaining photographs to illustrate the volume. He in turn, contacted his aunt, Mary Betsey Gooden and the late George Bunny for guidance in finding the items. Ted Isham at the Creek Council House Museum led him to Alfred Berryhill. The latter put him in touch with Rusty Powell.

On October 11, 2002, Clark, Isham and Powell met Myron Fixicio and traveled to Prairie Springs Indian Baptist Church where Fixico is a deacon. There they photographed the cast iron axle wheel housing horn. All of them turned around and went to Hvtce Cvpv Indian Baptist Church where John Micco hosted them as they photographed the marine shell horn that church member Barton Looney has used.

Individuals used the shofar or ram's horn in ancient times to announce events, to call for aid in wartime, and to proclaim crises. A variety of horns, such as the wakv-yvpe, cow horn, have been used for a long time among creeks. They are now mostly metal and are used to summon worshippers for services. Curator Isham added the photographs to the museum's collections. Clark expresses his Mvto Rakke, (big thanks) to the members of the churches for sharing their knowledge and permitting the photographs he hopes future generations of readers learn from them the material provided to the Smithsonian.

Creek Council House is offering cultural classes

OKMULGEE — The 2004 Council House began their Fall Arts program they offered leather working class for adults on Friday evening December 10 and all day Saturday December 11 at the Creek Council House Museum. The turnout was with ten participants on Friday and five participants on Saturday.

The goal was to train teachers who will be willing to pass on these skills to the next generation. To achieve this goal, Jay McGirt will teach the students, in a hands-on traditional method, the intricate art of Mvskoke leatherwork.

McGirt is a Seminole-Creek textile artist who has researched and created traditional clothing for over twenty years. He has served three internships with the Smithsonian Institution studying traditional Southeastern clothing and his work can be seen in their collections, as well as many other world renown museums.

This program is offered to the community by the Creek Council House Museum and Creek Nation's Office of Cultural and Preservation, and is sponsored in part by funding form the Oklahoma Endowment for the Arts.

Another class taught by McGirt is scheduled for late January and early February. This class he will be teaching Pucker toe Moccasins, Creek style. McGirt's classes are popular and fill up quickly this class is almost to capacity, a few limited spaces are available now. There is no charge to attend but class size is limited, so please call to reserve your space.

The classes will be at the Creek Council House and participants are asked to bring something for the potluck lunch. Again, call and reserve a spot quickly we have twelve signed up from a previous class that was cancelled, we have room for eight or nine people. Contact Ted Isham at the Creek Council House (918) 756-2324.

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Executive Security
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your Diabetes care provider
Eliminating Diabetic Amputations
Treatments available at
Okemah Indian Health Center
Diabetes Prevention & Management Program
or Contact your Diabetes Care provider

Neuro-Care
FDA & Medicare Approved

Mariah Lee,
President & CEO

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Fax: 918.665.1944

Featured in May 2004 issue of Muscogee Nation News

Falls Creek, a place where thousands of people come together

DAVIS — J.B. Rounds and W.D. Moore founded Falls Creek in 1917, which sits atop Arbuckle Mountains in the rustic wilderness of southern Oklahoma.

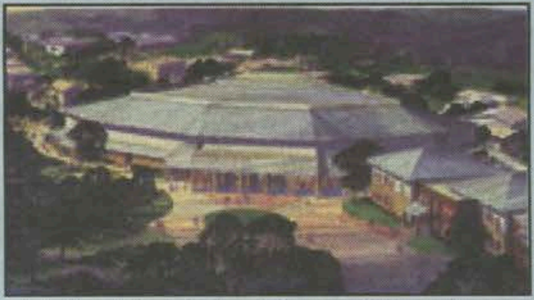
They first viewed the Falls Creek property in a photograph on a barber shop wall. They were immediately attracted to the 160 acre parcel and agreed it was the place for the annual Summer meetings of the Baptist Young People's Union.

One early report indicates that 273 people registered for the first assembly. Since 1917, over 1.8 million people have walked the grounds. The summer of 2003 witnessed 43,685 campers at Falls Creek. More missionaries have experienced their call to a lifetime of service at Falls Creek than at any other place on the face of the earth.

Falls Creek is a place where thousands of people, young and old, come together to hear God's Word proclaimed and to respond to the Holy Spirit's call to salvation.

Falls Creek receives no cooperative program funds for its maintenance and operation. All of the funds are received through registration fees and rentals, concessions, grocery, cafeteria, gift shop, offerings and endowment earnings.

Master plans for the improvement and replacement of deteriorating facilities at Falls Creek are in place. The plans are called For the Sake of the Call and Save-a-Seat Campaign. The campaigns are a special fund raising effort to secure financial gifts to help with construction and upgrades of Falls Creek.


An artist rendering of the new Tabernacle.

The first priority of the campaign will be the tabernacle. It will be expanded for increased seating capacity on several occasions, there has been no major renovation project undertaken on the tabernacle since its construction in 1929. During the summer months, temperatures often exceed 100 degrees. In the fall and winter months, temperatures become cold for meetings in the open-air tabernacle and is closed. The plan is to raise $16.6 million for the tabernacle.

The 73-year old open-air tabernacle will be replaced with an enclosed climate controlled worship center. While the new 109,000 square foot facility will accommodate 7,056 and will be handicap accessible, it can also be configured to accommodate smaller sized crowds, depending on the type of meeting. State of the art audio/video and broadcast technology will enhance the Falls Creek experience.

The second priority is, a two-story, 43,000 square foot conference and training complex adjacent to the tabernacle will provide an attractive environment and functional space for other types of meetings during the year, which are now limited in their use of Falls Creek. The approximate cost for the this construction is $1.65 million and will also include the relocation of the swimming pool).

JESUS SAVES

The third is the construction of a second entrance, the building of new roads and the widening of existing streets will improve the flow of traffic and assure the safety of campers. New parking lots will provide 400 additional spaces for buses and vans. The approximate cost for this project will be $4.7 million.

All donations go toward building costs and improvements to Falls Creek. Another way that you can help is the Save-a-Seat Campaign.

Remember those hot summer nights in the open-air tabernacle at Falls Creek? As you sat there you couldn't help but notice the thousands of names scrawled on the old wooden benches. Then, you fought the urge to inscribe your own name. You thought it's a little late for anyone to be upset, so you did it. Since 1917, countless numbers have written their names on the benches and into the history of Falls Creek. During that time almost 200,000 decisions for Christ have been made while sitting in those seats.

Through the Falls Creek Save-A-Seat Campaign you can once again, or maybe for the first time, inscribe your name into the history of Falls Creek by purchasing a seat in the new tabernacle.

The deadline to purchase a seat was December 31st. They have 7,000 seats in the tabernacle with 3,000 seats sold. In the last month they have received over $900. There are still seats available.

There is still time to 'Save-a-Seat' because the deadline has been extended until March 31, 2005. For each $500 gift, you can inscribe a seat in the new tabernacle. For your family, in honor or in memory of grandparents or parents who helped you grow into the person you are today, recognized that new grandbaby who one day will walk the dusty streets of Falls Creek and sit in "his/her seat" in the new tabernacle, surprise the love of your life by inscribing the date you were married, let tens of thousands know the date you became a Christian, or honor the memory of one who gave his or her life to defend the liberty we enjoy. For you church, in recognition of that special anniversary or milestone, in honor or in memory of that faithful pastor who served, not just your church, but also the entire community, recognize the Sunday school teacher, youth minister or music leader who poured his or her life into yours or honor the couple that was always there to help, never asking for anything in return.

A $20 deposit will "hold" your seat while you give the balance over a 24-month period of $20 per month. The inscription details are four lines with 25 characters per line with space and punctuation included.

You may order on-line at www.FallsCreekSeats.org, by phone at 1-800-690-6933 or you may cut out the order form below. Payment options are as follows: check/money order (on the memo line please write: "Save-a-Seat"); credit card; or automatic bank draft.

If you do not wish to "Save-a-Seat" but want to help in a different way you may donate any monetary gift and have a donor name plate on the wall of the foyer in the new tabernacle.

Name: ______________________________

Address: ____________________________

____

Phone: ______________________________

Mail completed form to:
Falls Creek Save-a-Seat Campaign
BGCO
3800 N. May Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the October 30, quarterly session.

October 30, Quarterly session

Absent were: **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Veto message:

• veto (20-0-0) NCA 04-132, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority for the renovation of the Cromwell Travel Plaza;

In order of business the Council:

• approved (20-0-0) TR 04-119, supporting the juvenile delinquency prevention and services project proposed by Children and Family Services Administration in its application for FY 2004 Tribal Youth program funding from the office of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, Office of Justice programs, U.S. Department of Justice;

voting yes by district: **George Tiger**, Creek District; **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Anthony Notaro**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh,** McIntosh District; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee District; **Sue Johnson**, Muskogee District; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee District; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **Billy Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Rita Williams**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner District;

• approved (20-0-0) TR 04-121, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the Principal Chief on behalf of the Housing Division to execute the contracts for rehabilitation repair work;

• approved (19-0-1) NCA 04-164, authorizing a special appropriation to teach the Creek language to twenty-four (24) Muscogee (Creek) chartered communities;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner District;

• approved (14-5-1) NCA 04-169, authorizing a special appropriation for a Creek family in need of financial assistance for legal fees associated with the resolution of the cause of death of their daughter;

voting no were: **Notaro**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

abstain were: **Quiett**, Tulsa;

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 04-173, authorizing a special appropriation to GSA to purchase three (3) electric power plants and four (4) water buffaloes;

voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

• approved to return to committee (15-8-0) NCA 04-177, amending MCNCA Title 21, §4-103, B., to add new two new subsections pertaining to specific authority, powers and responsibilities to the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 04-187, allowing the workforce investment act/comprehensive service program to modify their budget above the 10% allowable limit in order to close out the remaining funds for program year 2003;

•approved (17-3-0) NCA 04-188, amending NCA 04-131, (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending title 16, chapter four of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and amending and repealing certain laws to reorganize the existing structure of lighthorse police);

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

•approved (19-0-1) NCA 04-189, authorizing a special appropriation for payment of medical expenses for a disabled Muscogee (Creek) citizens

abstain were: **Quiett**, Tulsa District;

•approved (13-7-0) NCA 04-192, appropriating funds for the construction of a new Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee head start building,

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

•approved (20-0-0) NCA 04-193, authorizing a special appropriation to the little cussetah methodist church to replace the existing heating/air conditioning unit with a new replacement unit,

•approved (11-9-0) NCA 04-195, amending MCNCA title 21, §4-103, E., entitled "meeting of the board; open meeting requirements"

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

•approved (20-0-0) NCA 04-196, authorize an appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation division of health administration, diabetes prevention program for the 2004-2005 school diabetes program "move it and prevent diabetes"

•approved (16-4-0) NCA 04-197, authorizing a special appropriation to the Euchee language preservation project for the development of new teaching tools to aid in the preservation of the euchee language and related cultural information

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

•approved (19-1-0) NCA 04-198, amending MCNCA Title 19, §11-106, A., Entitled;

voting no were: **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee;

• approved (19-0-1) NCA 04-199, repealing NCA 04-182 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating the office of the internal auditor within the executive branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and codifying said law in Title 37 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation code annotated);

representatives **Pickering** and **K. Johnson** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (17-1-0) NCA 04-201, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority for the care of buffalo donated to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Pickering** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 04-202, authorizing a special appropriation to the Creek Chapel Indian Methodist Church.

November 9th, Extraordinary session

Absent were: **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

•approved to remove from Standing Committee (14-9-0) TR 04-113, Approving the business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal trade and commerce authority for agricultural services

voting yes were: **George Tiger**, Creek District; **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Anthony Notaro**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee District; **Billy Chalakee**, Okmulgee District; **Rita Williams**, Okmulgee District; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District; **Richard Berryhill**, Tulsa District;

•approved to remove from standing committee (18-5-0) TR 04-123, authorizing the Principal Chief to a "abbreviated standard form of agreement between owner and architect" and a "standard form of agreement between owner and contractor where the basis of payment is a stipulated sum" for renovations and sprung building addition to Creek Nation Tulsa Casino,

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

•failed to remove from standing committee (13-10-0) NCA 04-003, declaring no confidence in **Montie Deer** to serve in the capacity of attorney general and requesting his resignation,

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh,** McIntosh **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; **Gillespie,** Wagoner;

Representative **Quiett** arrived before vote count was taken.

• failed to remove from standing committee (16-8-0) NCA 04-176, amending MCNCA title 1, Chapter 1 and title 37, §2-210 to allow the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce authority to manage agricultural projects on the nation's property;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

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Council

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• approved to remove from committee, (24-0-0) NCA 04-205, repealing TR 04-031 (a tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing TR 03-094 and confirming the nomination of Victoria Lee to serve as the Director for the Division of Health Administration;

• approved to remove from committee, (24-0-0) NCA 04-209, amending NCA 03-242 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the purchase, construction, and erection of a sprung building that will be constructed and built as an addition to the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino to provide extra floor space for additional electronic gaming machines) to properly reflect the total renovation project at Creek Nation Tulsa Casino;

• approved to remove from committee (16-2-6) NCA 04-212, amending NCA 03-242 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the purchase, constructed and built as an addition to the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino to provide extra floor space for additional electronic gaming machines) to properly reflect the total renovation project at Creek Nation Tulsa Casino;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

abstain were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa;

representative **Nichols** arrived before vote count was taken;

• approved to return to committee (25-0-0) TR 04-123, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an "abbreviated standard form of agreement between owner and architect" and a "standard form of agreement between owner and contractor where the basis of payment is a stipulated sum" for renovations and sprung building addition to Creek Nation Tulsa Casino;

• approved to return to committee (25-0-0) NCA 04-205, repealing TR 04-031 (a tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing TR 03-094 and confirming the nomination of Victoria Lee to serve as the director for the Division of Health Administration;

• approved to return to committee (25-0-0) NCA 04-209, amending NCA 03-242 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the purchase, construction, and erection of a sprung build

•approved (24-1-0) NCA 04-206, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the veterans affairs office for the remainder of fiscal year 2005,

abstain were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved (21-4-0) NCA 04–207, authorizing a special appropriation to the town of Dustin to replace equipment and supplies;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved (17-8-0) NCA 04-208, authorizing a special appropriation to the Moss public school for a multipurpose facility;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (24-1-0) NCA 04-210, amending MCNCA Title 37, 62-129, entitled "Murrow Indian Children's Home";

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved (24-1-0) NCA 04-211, authorizing a special appropriation to the 24 Muscogee (Creek) Chartered Communities subsection pertaining to specific authority, powers and responsibilities to the gaming operations authority board,

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; that will be constructed and built as an addition to the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino to provide extra floor space for addition to the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino to provide extra floor space for additional electronic gaming machines) to properly reflect the total renovation project at Creek Nation Tulsa Casino;

representative **Cleghorn** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved to go into executive session (15-10-0) NCR 04-003, declaring no confidence in **Montie Deer** to serve in the capacity of attorney general and requesting his resignation;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Kelley**, Tulsa.

November 20, Regular session

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Veto Message:

• Veto (22-3-0) NCA 04-195, amending MCNCA Title 21, §4-103, E., entitled "meetings of the board; open meetings requirements"

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

In order of business the Council:

• approved to move to the end of agenda (21-3-1) TR 04-113, approving the business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal trade and commerce authority for agricultural services

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (21-4-0) TR 04-117, authorizing the Muscogee Nation business enterprise board to execute an attorney agreement between the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Board and Barrow & Grimm, P.C.

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (25-0-0) TR 04-124, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to extend the attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board and **Michael Minnis** & Associates, P.C.

•approved (17-8-0) TR 04-131, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for the purpose of constructing a health facility/senior assistant living center

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

•approved (25-0-0) NCA 04-163, appropriating funds for the purchase of ten (10) acres of land known as the overman property in Eufaula, Oklahoma for the purpose of housing and/or new health clinic,

•approved to return to committee (17-8-0) NCA 04-165, authorizing a special appropriation to American Red Cross for the continuance of services in Okmulgee and Okfuskee counties,

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa;

•approved to be moved to end of agenda (25-0-0) NCA 04-176, amending MCNCA title 1, chapter 1 and title 37, §2-210 to allow the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal trade & commerce authority to manage agricultural projects on the nations's property,

•approved to postpone action (14-11-0) NCA 04-177, amending MCNCA Title 21, §4-103, B., to add new two new subsection pertaining to specific authority, powers and responsibilities to the gaming operations authority board,

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

•approved (24-1-0) NCA 04-206, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the veterans affairs office for the remainder of fiscal year 2005,

abstain were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved (21-4-0) NCA 04–207, authorizing a special appropriation to the town of Dustin to replace equipment and supplies;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved (17-8-0) NCA 04-208, authorizing a special appropriation to the Moss public school for a multipurpose facility;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (24-1-0) NCA 04-210, amending MCNCA Title 37, 62-129, entitled "Murrow Indian Children's Home";

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved (24-1-0) NCA 04-211, authorizing a special appropriation to the 24 Muscogee (Creek) Chartered Communities for the purpose of enhancing and enriching the 2004 Christmas activities for citizens;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• died on the floor (25-0-0) NCA 04-212, amending NCA 03-242 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the purchase, construction, and erection of a sprung building that will be constructed and built as an addition to the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino to provide extra floor space for additional electronic gaming machines) to properly reflect the total renovation project at Creek Nation Tulsa Casino;

• approved (25-0-0) NCA 04-213, authorizing a the expenditure of the Office of Justice programs fiscal year 2004 Tribal Youth program award to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration;

• approved (25-0-0) NCA 04-214, authorizing a special appropriation for repairs and improvements to the property of an elderly member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation living outside the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the Strang, Oklahoma area;

• approved as amended (25-0-0) NCA 04-220, authorizing a special appropriation to assist Muscogee (Creek) churches and ceremonial grounds for their Christmas celebration;

• approved (25-0-0) NCA 04-218, appropriating funds for first year start-up costs associated with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Oklahoma Tribal University;

• approved (21-3-1) TR 04-113, approving the business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority for agricultural services;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Wind**, Okfuskee; and **Ade**, Tukvpvtce;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (21-4–0) NCA 04-176, amending MCNCA Title 1, chapter 1 and title 37, §2-210 to allow the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority to manage agricultural projects on the nation's property;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner.

November 22, Emergency session

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

absent were: **Jones**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Kelley**, Tulsa;

a discussion on State Question 712 was conducted.

December 9, Emergency session

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

absent were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa;

In order of business the Council:

• approved as amended (15-0-0) NCA 04-232, amending NCA 04-220 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to assist Muscogee (Creek) churches and ceremonial grounds for their Christmas celebration).

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Health Information Clerk:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A minimum of one year relevant experience is preferred.

Secretary Reintegration Program:

Requirements: Associate in Science Degree with emphasis on Secretarial or Administrative Assistance is preferred. Or five years relevant work experience in office management. Work experience in an office environment with adult and / or juvenile legal or social services is preferred. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's license and be insurable is required.

Reintegration Program Coordinator:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, Social Services or related field is preferred. A minimum of 3 years relevant work experience in parole supervision and counseling. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's license and be insurable is required.

LPN - Okmulgee:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited practical nursing curriculum is required. One year relevant experience as a member of a nursing team. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Practical Nursing and current CPR certification.

Utilization Review / QA Coordinator - CNCH:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Nursing (BSN) received from an accredited school of professional nursing is preferred. Candidates who have graduated from an Associate's Degree program or other program of at least two years in a nursing curriculum may be considered. Three years clinical experience with one year medical / surgical nursing preferred. Must possess current State of Oklahoma Nursing License.

Radiology Technologist - Okemah:

Requirements: Completion of a formal radiological program from an accredited college or hospital base program. One year of relevant work experience in radiology under the direct supervision of a registered radiology technologist. Completion of requirements necessary for becoming ARRT certified. CPR certification and completion of an accredited IV Therapy course is required.

Exercise Program Manager (2 Positions)
Sapulpa and Eufaula:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Physiology, Physical Education (B.S. Ed), Health and Human Performance, Health Promotion or related field. Two years relevant experience in a related field. Must possess current State Educator License as applicable to education qualification. Certification as a Diabetes Educator (CDE) would benefit potential incumbent, though not required. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma Driver's License and be insurable.

Pharmacist - Okmulgee:

Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited college / university of Pharmacy or is a Public Health Service (PHS) Pharmacy Officer. One year of relevant experience as a Pharmacist or PHS Pharmacy Officer. Incumbent is required to possess a current Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy license or current license as required by the PHS Commissioned Corporation.

Supervisory Accountant - General Ledger:

Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting is preferred. With a Bachelors Degree, two years of experience. Education requirement may be substituted with 10 years of relevant experience.

Accountant Finance:

Requirements: An Associate Degree in Accounting is required. Five years of related experience.

CEO - Division of Health Administration:

Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields, Substantial Experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following: direct health care activities, Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contact Health services. In addition, candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized organizations for excellence and / or outstanding contributions to the field.

CHR Generalist:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalency is required. One year relevant experience. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable. This position requires the employee to maintain a residential telephone. Residence in or near Hughes County is highly desirable.

Staff Dentist - Sapulpa:

Requirements: A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory, or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in educational requirements.

Van Driver, 3 positions open, Part Time
Weleetka, Okemah, Muskogee

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler's permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Chief Financial Officer:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Finance, Accounting, or a related field and a minimum of four years of progressive experience in the direction of a health services or governmental finance department is required. A Master's Degree in Business Administration of a current State of Oklahoma CPA certificate is preferred.

Interviewer Consultant - Tobacco Prevention:

Requirements: High School diploma or GED equivalent is required. Associated Degree in Public Health or Social Science or related field is preferred. One year of relevant work experience is required.

LPN - Okmulgee (Temporary):

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited practical nursing curriculum is required. One year relevant experience as a member of a nursing team. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Practical Nursing, and current CPR certification.

Public Health Nurse - Okmulgee:

Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. Two years of relevant work experience in the field of Public Health. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Registered Nursing (prefer BSN), or Diploma, or an AD nurse.

Pediatric Dentist - Okmulgee:

Requirements: Must be eligible for Pediatric Licensure in the State of Oklahoma.

For Further information please contact Personnel Services at (918) 756-4333 Ext 271.

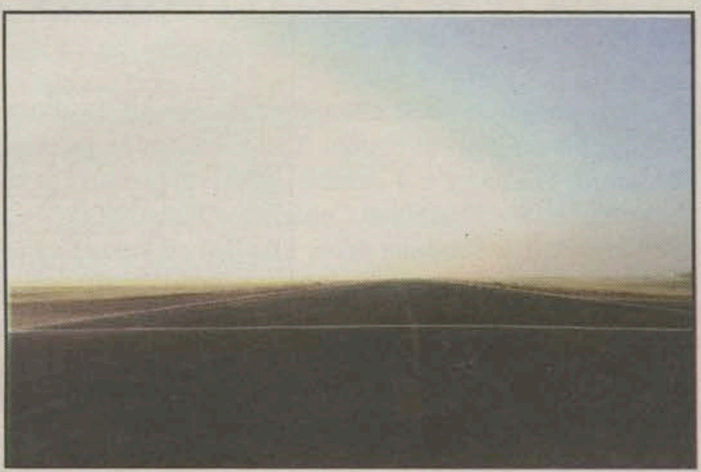
JOB ADVERTISEMENTS: The MNN is accepting job advertisements to run in the newspaper. If you or your company would like to advertise any openings, please contact call 732-7637 for information on rates or to place your ad.

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise successfully completes assult landing zone for United States Air Force

ALTUS – Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise (MNBE) Construction Division recently passed final inspection by Altus Air Force Base Personnel for the Assault Landing Zone (ALZ) at Altus Air Force Base. According to Michael Nalley, Director, "The Assault Landing Zone project is a high priority for the United States Airforce. It is one of only three landing strips in the United States where the Air Force trains C-17 Pilots to land and takeoff on 3500 foot runways. The Air Force is once again using the ALZ for training."

The C-17 is capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward bases in the deployment area. The design of the aircraft allows it to operate through small, austere airfields. The C-17 can take off and land on runways as short as 3,000 feet and only 90 feet wide.

"I want to commend our Construction Services Altus Team and our subcontractors for a project well done," said Nalley. "Our contract required the ALZ to be completed by January 6, 2005 and we completed it two weeks ahead of schedule. We will now finish the outside runway by January 10, 2005 and the inside runway by January 25, 2005. MNBE is honored that the Air Force had the confidence in our ability to successfully perform this contract."


Subcontractor Patton Construction milling ALZ runway

This project was a higher risk project than projects completed prior to the ALZ project. The following is a list MNBE employees who are involved in this project. Woody Anderson, who now serves as the Manager of sales and Marketing and Special Projects, was critical to the early project management and operations success of the Altus AFB SABER contract. Steve Bighorse, Osage, Construction Services Operations Manager, now is responsible for estimating and negotiating this and most contracts on the Altus AFB SABER contract. He is involved with Altus on a daily basis insuring that certified payrolls are submitted, preparing contract documents for subcontractors, and providing oversight form MNBE headquarters. Justin Barnett (Muscogee), MNBE Project Manager, has supervised the ALZ project from the start. He has performed an outstanding job ensuring that subcontractors are meeting deadlines, working with various officials at Altus AFB and providing the customer with a successful completed project. Rob Walenta, Project Manager for the Altus Saber Contract, has provided the on-site administrative support and is the contact person at the base. Rob is also responsible for the other projects MNBE has under contract at Altus AFB. Robert Dein, Quality Control, has been in charge of insuring that all quality standards are met as per the contract. Last but not least is the administrative support staff at MNBE Headquarters. Lisa Dunn, Muscogee, Accounting Manager, Deanna Igney Muscogee, Contracts and Tina Hamm, Muscogee, Accounting, provide all the administrative support to this project. Their responsibilities include preparation of payroll, certified payroll records, contract support and much more. "All of MNBE's staff have performed as a team and are critical to the success of our relationship with Altus AFB," said Nalley.

MNBE is also working on several contracts at the same time. "We have several contracts that have started recently," said Bighorse. "Tom Harjo (Muscogee), MNBE Superintendent, is in charge of supervising all of the projects outside of the ALZ and he has done an outstanding job."

MNBE has a 66 month Saber contract with Altus Air Force Base that started in September 2003 and will end in June 2005.

Gh2 Gralla Architects, LLC extend welcome to Muscogee citizens

TULSA—GH2 Gralla Architects would like to welcome applicants form the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Gh2 Gralla Architects, LLC offers a limited number of summer internships for college students enrolled in an accredited professional degree program in the field of architecture or interior architecture.

The summer program offers a basic introduction into professional practice, and allows participants to gain exposure to a wide variety of activities related to the firm's current projects. Previous participants have been able to participate in design meetings, visit project construction sites, and have extensive contact and interaction with Gh2 staff members.

A resume or letter of interest should be received by the firm by March 15 for consideration. Interviews are normally conducted during the months of March and April with successful candidates notified by April 15, 2005.

This program is sponsored by Gh2 as a part of our commitment to professional development and training of students entering the architectural profession.

Gh2 is a 33 year old architecture firm with headquarters in Tulsa. The firm's international practice encompasses several specialty areas including hospitality, equestrian, health care, and historic preservation. If you are interested in the summer internship program for college students of the architecture field please contact the Gh2 Galla Architects office at (918) 587-6158. Office are located at 320 South Boston, Suite 1400, Tulsa.

MDIC greets Ukraine visitors

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade and Commerce Authority recently had visitors from Ukraine. Nataliay Tsvyashehenko and Victor Bolotstky, were very impressed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and asked questions about our language and culture. They were very impressed with the tribe preserving the language. Gifts of painted feathers, Muscogee Creek Samplers, Ceremonial music, and more. They also toured the Creek mound.

Ukraine visitors Nataliya Tsvyashehenko, Victor Bolotsky, Vice Mayor and Roger Thompson, Okemah Church of Christ

Spotlight

> "I have to give him credit," said David. "He always told me he could do it. I'm really proud of him."

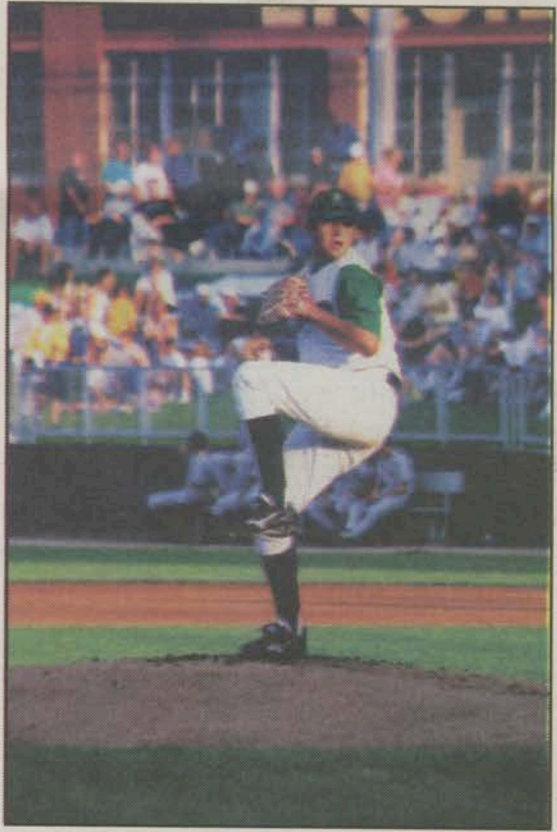
Creek ball player success story continues to grow

by Gerald Wofford

In the year of 2000, a young Muscogee (Creek) athlete, by the name of Ocfuske James King, was attending Sequoyah High School and playing baseball. His friends and family called him O.J. O.J. was a pitcher and quite talented at the position.

He really loved the sport he was involved in. He loved the order of the game, its rules and the general overall camaraderie that was evident in the sport that is called, "America's Pastime."

The young athlete wanted to continue in his chosen sport and looked to the next level after high school. Hopefully, a college might just be interested in investing a baseball scholarship in a young Native American hurler. Or perhaps, as is the baseball norm, maybe a baseball scout representing a Major League team might offer him a tryout in the team's farm-club system. Whatever the option, as long as it would allow King to continue playing baseball. But it was still late spring of his High School senior year, soon the offers would eventually begin to come. But there were none.


Muscogee (Creek) athlete Ocfuske James King

For some reason, O.J. was not gaining the attention he deserved, in spite of a successful pitching year at Sequoyah. No offers to play baseball were placed on the table, at least not yet.

It was now summer, the expectations of a letter, phone call, or just a knock on the door were all gone. But their was one glimmer of hope. The Creek ball player had been selected to play in the Green Country All-Star game in Warner.

Baseball coaches from nearby Connors State College were in attendance. The two year educational system prides itself on looking and finding great talent. This time, O.J. was given full attention. His performance in the event was quite impressive. The coaches offered the 6'3, 215 lb. athlete a full scholarship immediately after the game. Now the ball player had a start, a place to begin and hopes of going further.

O.J. made the most of his unique opportunity. He went on to have strong seasons at the two-year institution and by now, others were paying attention.

The University of Louisiana Northwestern came calling, and the pitcher liked what the school had to offer, not only with its respectable baseball program, but the school's academic opportunities as well.

The school's fight name is the Demons and the young athlete went right to work helping the school produce a winning program. During his first year there, the Demons went on to claim the Southland Conference Title. O.J's season record was an impressive eight wins with only one loss.

The success would continue the next year with the Creek pitching a complete game while allowing only one hit. In another contest he would strike out a career high 15 batters. The strike out performance would become a school record. The game was against arch-rival Lamar. For his performance, O.J. would be named the Southland Conference Player of the Week. Demon Head Baseball Coach Mitch Gaspand knew that he had landed a gem while watching the performance back in Warner and commented specifically on his stellar outing against Lamar. "O.J. was totally dominating today, he really took us (team) on his shoulders with his performance today," said Gaspand.

Not only was O.J.'s individual performance brilliant, but the team was performing on the same level. For a special time during that spring, the Demons held the Nation's longest winning streak, 16.

During the consecutive numbers in the win column, the Demons even beat the likes of the University of Minnesota. The Golden Gophers were the defending Big 10 Champions. For the first time in Demon baseball history, the team was ranked 23rd nationally by the Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (CBWA) poll. The CBWA poll is the most established major college baseball ranking system.

The hard work and dedication had paid off and O.J. didn't have to worry about not receiving attention anymore. His father, David King, who works with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority, watched his son never give up his dream. "I have to give him credit," said David. "He always told me he could do it. I'm really proud of him."

O.J.'s dream of playing baseball at the college level also helped him obtain another goal, a college degree. O.J. earned a degree in University Studies.

However, O.J. wasn't finished with baseball just yet. Having performed brilliantly at the college level, ball clubs began knocking at the door. Major League organizations such as the Los Angeles Dodgers, Seattle Mariners and Cincinnati Reds were definitely interested in his pitching prowess. The Reds were the most persistent and O.J. was soon in the Reds farm club system. He went on to pitch in the rookie league for two years and the Class A division for the Philly Mustangs and Dayton Dragons.

A shoulder injury would dampen O.J.'s performance on the mound and eventually, the Creek athlete would have to let go of his dream of continuing to play the sport he loved. But his love and desire for the sport and always being a part of the game has never died, O.J. has decided to lend his skills to coaching. He has already mentored young students of the sport in a private school in Louisiana. O.J. next plans to help Creek baseball players in a camp to be held this summer. O.J.'s success story continues to be written!

Shop talk with Gerald

Hope everyone had a safe and happy New Year. What a way to bring in the New Year, a National Championship game with local flavor. Unfortunately, the flavor went a little bad for the Oklahoma Sooners bid for a National Championship this year. You got to admit, its been a long time since we have seen the crimson and cream, well, creamed in this sort of manner. Murphy's law of everything that can go wrong will go wrong, was applied that fourth night of January in warm Miami, Florida for Bob Stoop's Sooners.

But since we're all armchair quarterbacks for a while, all kinds of ideas, remedies, and opinions will be given that certainly would have suppressed or aided the failing Sooners. All views will probably be that way until spring football rolls around and the promise of a new season can be anticipated.

And so falling in line with everyone, we do want to remind our wonderful readers about the December issue of *The Muscogee Nation News,* we did document that Oklahoma would have to play a near perfect game in order to preserve a victory. And that the defensive secondary of the Sooners would have to play the perfect game. Well, obviously that didn't happen as Trojan quarterback Matt Leinart threw for an Orange Bowl record five touchdowns and completed 18-of-35 passes for 332 yards, and was named the game's Most Outstanding Player. Yeah, it was bad, but Muscogee readers, don't give up the faith.

Like the anticipated Orange Bowl matchup, the Kobe Bryant-Shaquille O'Neal didn't live up to expectations either. O'Neal's Miami Heat won the game, but the giant fouled out before the game went into overtime. True, his teammates took over and got the win, but it still would have been nice to have seen a playoff type of foul. The type of playoff that's reminiscent of the Kevin McHale tomahawk on Kurt Rambis way back in the day. Nothing like that really happened, so I think Kobe won the battle this day. After all, he did lure O'Neal into fouling him for his sixth foul. I guess we will all have to wait and see what happens in the second confrontation which is scheduled for March 17 in Miami. The game is scheduled to be televised on TNT.

Even though we're in cold January, its not too early to start thinking about the 2nd Annual All-Indian March Madness Basketball Tournament. The Tournament will be held March 23 through the 27 at the Dewar High School Gymnasium. Last year's tournament was fun to watch and this year's tournament promises to be even bigger and better than last year's successful spectacle. Come on, get a team in, and if you don't have one, get one.

Keep letting us know about those great Creek athletes out there. Basketball season is in high gear and softball is going to be coming up. If you don't brag about your athlete, no one will.

MNN Athlete of the Month: Ashley Bear

BROKEN ARROW—Ashley Bear is helping lead the Broken Arrow Lady Tigers Basketball team with a steady dose of experience.

The Muscogee (Creek) senior is not only a force on the hardwood, but in the classroom as well. Bear's academic success has earned her consideration for class valedictorian, which will be announced later this year.

"Ashley's been playing since she was in the second grade," says her father, Gerry, proudly.

Bear started out her high school career at the guard position, but her leadership skills made Coach Teri Long move the Creek athlete to the point-guard position. Bear is averaging 12 points per game.

Broken Arrow High School Player Ashley Bear

Although a leader on the team requires going underneath and fighting for position, Bear prefers the perimeter game and is quite efficient behind the three-point line.

Bear continues to guide the rather young team. Besides teammate Allison Little, who is a senior, the Lady Tigers roster consists mainly of sophomores who are working their way through a rough start. At the end of December, the Lady Tigers were with 2 wins and 4 losses. The team finished last year with 12 wins and 14 losses.

Coach Long admits that the road has been difficult for Bear and for the team. Bear is naturally a shooting guard and the ball handling duties of a point guard are not duties she is accustomed to. But Bear has risen to the occasion, according to Coach Long. "Ashley should be our shooting guard, but since we are without a point guard she has bitten the bullet and has gotten better."

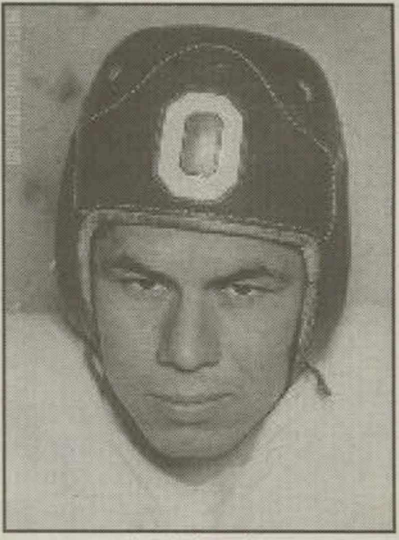
Broken Arrow plays in 6A and competes in the Frontier Conference, which consists of teams such as Jenks, Union, and Muskogee.

"Ashley is such a remarkable player, she is a team leader and helps lead the team," says Coach Long. "Both on and off the court, a lot of times, the younger players, and we have quite a few of them, look to her for guidance.

Bear's future plans are to attend Oklahoma State University and major in mechanical engineering. Considering her outstanding leadership skills, earning a college degree will not be so difficult for this Creek high school senior.

Creek athlete included in 100 greatest sports publication

Sooners Illustrated magazine recently printed a special book entitled, "100 Greatest Sooners." Ranked at number 93 on the all-time list is Muscogee (Creek) citizen, Jack Jacobs, who was born in Holdenville in 1919 and played for the University of Oklahoma from 1939 to 1941.



Jack Jacobs

Jacobs, an Oklahoma legend known as Indian Jack, did his part for the Sooners. The Creek gridiron star led the team at quarterback and also played defensive back. Jacobs was also known for his punting exploits and, according to the article, Jacobs, who was second in the nation in 1940 in punting with a 47.8 yards average, punted 18 times in a contest against Santa Clara, a record that still stands after 62 seasons.

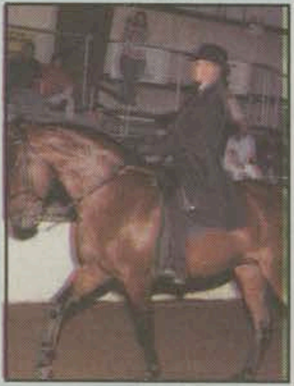
Another good example of Jacob's abilities is told from an excerpt from the article in a game that featured Oklahoma against Santa Clara.

The Sooners were clinging to an 8-6 lead and pinned deep in their own end of the field, when Jacobs proceeded to boot a spiraling punt that cut through the October winds and did not stop until it had bounced inside the Santa Clara 10-yard line, some 86 yards away. The Sooner defense went to hold and the Broncos and moments later, Jacobs led OU, facing a fourth and goal from the three, to a game clinching touchdown with 15 seconds remaining in the game. Final score: Oklahoma 16, Santa Clara 6.

Community sports news

Brewster participates in horse show

ST. LOUIS, MO.— Sarah Brewster recently participated in a St. Louis charity horse show. She rode Good Friday's Goin' Jessie. She captured several awards while competing against world renown Tennessee walking horse breeds.



Brewster

She is a senior, attending Oklahoma State University on an Indian Health Service scholarship.

Sarah is the great granddaughter of Dora Chaney.

Tribal member makes ABA All-Native team

YUMA, Ariz. — Rodney Patrick Thompson was recently selected for the American Basketball Association's All-Native Basketball team on a trial basis.

Thompson grew up in the Ganado area of the Navajo reservation. He was involved in various sports, including basketball, football, and track throughout his high school career. He graduated from Ganado High School in 1995. After graduation, he attended Yavapai Community College in Prescott, Arizona on a basketball scholarship.

Thompson

Rodney is the son of Marshall Thompson and Joan Dalgai. He is the grandson of the late Newman Thompson and Cinda Sootawakey-Thompson.

He has one sister, Andrea Hernandez.

2005 Native American All-Star Football Game

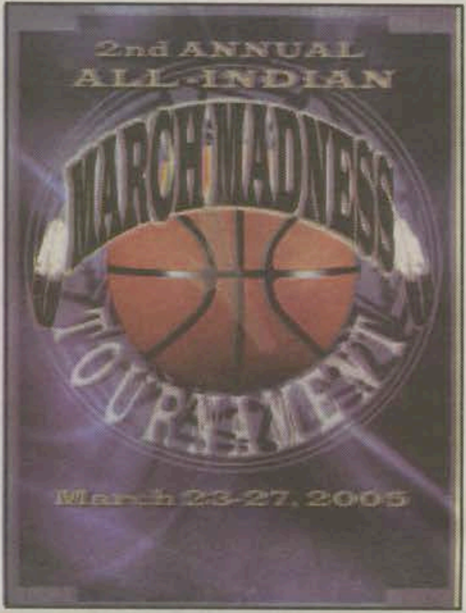
LAWRENCE, Kan. — The 2005 Native American All-Star football game committee announces that nominations for participants of the 2005 game are now being accepted. Any Native American high school senior who will graduate in 2005 and is a member of a federally recognized tribe is encouraged to apply for the All-Star game.

The Native American All-Star game is in its fourth year of existence and continues to gain notoriety with college coaches and players alike. This year's All-Star football game will continue to be held on the historic campus of Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, on a date yet to be determined. All selected participants will have an opportunity to meet and play with the best of the best in Indian country in an East versus West format.

For more information, visit www.ndnsports.com or contact Brent Cahwee, bcahwee@ndnsports.com or John Harjo, jharjo@ndnsports.com for more information.

Tournament offers more than athletic competition

OKMULGEE — A few years ago, friends and sports enthusiasts, David Pascale and Lucas Taylor, decided to create a basketball tournament that would target and benefit Native American youth in the surrounding communities, with aspirations of a nationwide impact.



The goal of the tournament was to develop a tournament that will help build character in our Native American youth, give them a focal point to strive for academic excellence, provide a deterrent to alcohol and drug use/abuse, restore pride in our Native American heritage, foster a healthy life-style and ultimately help Native American youth succeed in the game of life.

"Historically, Native Americans have always been athletic," said Taylor. "Whether is was during times of war, or hunting to provide food and insuring the very existence of our people, Native Americans have always possessed a competitive spirit deep within. By targeting these two characteristics, athletics and competitiveness, we felt we would be able to capture their attention and help focus on other areas of life that our Native American youth deem as insignificant or of no great concern."

Working from this concept, Pascale and Taylor have developed two very successful basketball tournaments: the Annual All-Indian Warriors Showcase Shootout, for ages five to fourteen, and the Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament, for high school aged athletes. The two tournaments have reached basketball enthusiasts throughout Oklahoma, as well as neighboring states. Last year, University of Oklahoma Men's Basketball Coach, Kelvin Sampson, wrote a letter of support that was included in the March Madness tournament program.

"That letter helps us move closer to gaining national recognition," said Taylor.

Everyone involved with the tournaments are identifiable Native Americans. This allows us the organization to have a more personal connection and positive affect on Native American youth.

In conjunction with this year's March Madness Tournament, the tournament committee will be giving away four scholarships: (2) four year scholarships (up to 100% of tuition costs only) to Bacone College and (2) $1000 scholarships at a formal awards banquet following the March Madness Tournament.

New to this year's tournament activities is an education fair hosted by Bacone College. The one day education fair is geared toward helping our Native American youth prepare for life after high school. The retention rate of Native Americans nationwide is 18%.

"For the numbers to increase, we must provide every possible opportunity to help them succeed and remove all stumbling blocks that continue to haunt all Native American students nationwide," said Taylor. "Too many times we want to place the blame on everyone else, when ultimately the blame lies with us! Our Native American youth are placed on a path that leads to failure rather than success. It's our goal and desire to break that continuing circle of failure by redirecting their paths."

During the education fair, Bacone College officials will provide lectures guided by Native American speakers and information packets for all those who attend. Experts will be on hand to help participants fill out financial aid packets for federal and tribal financial aid.

Along with the two scholarships, Bacone is able to offer every individual a 35% scholarship towards costs of attending Bacone College. The scholarships are in Native American specific areas, specifically those related to Muscogee (Creek) culture. Three areas are targeted: ceremonial leaders (singing) and shell shakers; stickball; and storytelling. This encourages our youth to be proud of their Native American heritage.

"By utilizing the wisdom and teachings of our tribal elders, our youth can help the progression of our people by attending an institute of higher learning and returning to our rural communities with a new found knowledge, pride, and attitude, characteristics are youth desperately need in order to prosper and survive," said Taylor.

Finally, depending on the funds generated, the tournament committee plans on sponsoring and chaperoning one boys team and one girls team, comprised of individuals participating in the March Madness Tournament, to the Annual All West Native American Basketball Tournament in Denver, Colorado, sponsored by the United Native American Housing Association. The team will act as ambassadors for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation.

Based on the success of previous tournaments, Pascale and Taylor plan on creating a organization that will allow them to financially assist individuals with educational needs, alcohol/drug awareness and prevention activities, life skills training, athletic equipment, instructional and exposure camps, and team sponsorships.

For more information about the All-Indian March Madness Tournament or for a scholarship application, contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 732-7637 or lvmhe4@yahoo.com.

SARAH BAKER

BROKEN ARROW — Funeral services for Sarah Molly Jean Gordon Baker were held December 17 at Floral Haven Funeral Home with a family reception hosted by members of the American Legion Post 308.

She was born on November 25, 1925 to Homer and Lena McFarland Gordon. Baker attended Graham District #32 for 12 years. After graduation she moved to Dallas, Texas where she enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Women Reserves. After boot camp she attended motor transport school at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina then served during the duration of World War II at Quantico, Virginia.

Sarah was honored as the 2003 Oklahoma Female Veteran of the Year for her years of volunteerism with veterans organizations. She was the founder of Oklahoma's first chapter of Women Marines Association in 1978 and served nine years as its president. Baker was a life member of the Marine Corps League, member of American Legion Post 308 Honor Guard. She was also a member of Women of the Moose Lodge 862 and was a Girl Scouts leader for six years.

Baker was preceded in death by: her parents; brother, Charles "Buster" Gordon; and sisters, Jackie Baldwin and Odessa Stewart.

Survivors include: daughters, Royala Radtke of Tulsa, Connie Lumsden of Saginaw, Texas, Ronda Kellogg and Retha Perry, both of Catoosa; son, Russel Radtke of Tulsa; sisters, Lillie Massengale of Dustin, Eileen Sanders and Liz Robison, both of Lamar; brother, John Gordon of Moore; eleven grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; and cherished friends.

DANIEL THOMPSON

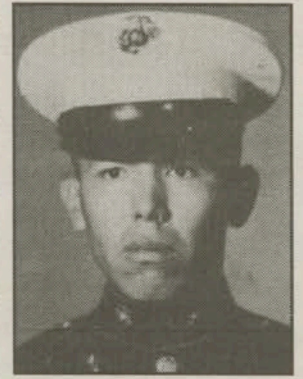
SCHULTER — Funeral services for Daniel "Bodee" Thompson were held December 31 at the Schulter Gymnasium.

He was born June 12, 1945 in Pierce to Newman and Cinda Thompson.

He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in July 1966 and earned an honorable discharge in February 1971. Bodee was a Corporal and served in the Vietnam War. He was also a pipeline/welder.

Thompson was a lifetime member of the VFW, member of the American Legion, Elks Lodge, Local Pipe liners Union and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Daniel enjoyed all sports but he most enjoyed basketball and softball. His hobbies were playing pool with his V.F.W. Team. He also enjoyed riding around and visiting places, family, friends and listening to country, oldies and stompdance music.



Thompson

Preceding him in death were: his parents; brothers, Russell and Henry Thompson; and sisters, Bessie Freeman and Ethyl Wyatt.

Survivors include: wife, Kim Rich of the home; daughters, Cassandra Harjo, Dana and Carol K. Thompson, all of Okemah; five grandchildren; brothers, Emmanuel of Checotah, Newman Jr. of Henryetta and Marshall Thompson of Yuma, Arizona; and sisters, Etta Dickerson of Sapulpa and Sarah Harjo Thompson of Tulsa.

Honorary pallbearers were: Newman Jr., Marshall and Emmanuel Thompson; Darryl Dudley; Joe Henry; Jack Alexander; and Reuben Freeman Sr.

PATRICIA WOZENCRAFT

OCALA, FL — Patricia Wozencraft passed away on Nov. 19, 2004, of breast cancer. She died 10 days before her 67th birthday.

She graduated from Wetumka High School in 1956. Patty had a special gift with art and sculpting. She sculpted a lot of horses and produced them in Bronzes.

Patty was preceded in death by: her parents, Bill and Pearl Conley; sister, Thelma Conley Wyman, June 2004, and a brother Oscar Lee Conley June 2004.

She was survived by her husband Ed Wozencraft; daughter, Roberta Sampson, of Canoga Park, Ca.; son, Don Lanning, of Van Nuys, Ca.; three brothers, Douglas Conley, Billy Conley, and Glenn Conley; Two sisters, Nova Gail Conley Ball, and Brenda Conley Chambers.

She was Cremated. A Memorial Service was held Dec. 2, at her church at Oakbrook Life Center in Ocala, Florida.

HELEN JIMBOY

CLEARVIEW — Funeral services for Helen Jimboy were held December 28 at Creek Chapel Methodist Church.

She was born July 12, 1932, in Clearview, to Pete and Annie Harjo. She was a homemaker, and also enjoyed quilting and knitting. She was a longtime member of the Creek Chapel Methodist Church.

Jimboy was preceded in death by her loving husband William M. Jimboy; her parents; one son, Baby Boy Jimboy; one grand baby; one great-grandbaby; two sister, Minnie Beaver and Lou Ann Wells.

She was survived by her three sons: David Jimboy, of Glenpool; Elton Jimboy, of Tulsa; Marcy Jimboy, of Holdenville; six daughters: Leah Ann Jack, of Tulsa; Edith Jimboy, of Clearview; Louisa (Kitty) Chotkey, of Tulsa; Robin Armstrong, of Anadarko; Margie Sue McIntosh, of Glenpool; Princess Pat Chester, of Hulbert; one sister Lettie Randell, of Henryetta; three brothers, Sonnie Harjo, of Okemah; James Harjo, of Clearview; Morris Harjo, of Clearview;

Interment was held at Creek Chapel Cemetery. Officiating was Rev. Malcom Tiger and Rev. Edwin Jimboy.

ROBERT LOUIS PETSEMOIE, JR.

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Robert L. Petsemoie, Jr. were held on January 11, at Arbeka Indian Baptist Church.

He was born September 14, 1951, in Talihina, to Robert Petsemoie Sr. and Leah Bear. He graduated from Chilocco Indian School in 1969 at the top of his class and excelled in sports and played in the band. He also attended Southeastern State College in Durant and Oklahoma University and also served in the United States Navy.

He was a carpenter and worked for Creek Nation Housing and also as a self employed carpenter. He had lived in Weleetka for five years coming from Holdenville.

He was baptized at Arbeka Indian Baptist Church on December 19, 2004, by Rev. Marvin Lowe and became a member of that church. Robert was an avid OU football fan who had season tickets and attended every game he could. He loved to fish at Eufaula dam, have cookouts, and travel. He was always helping others and during his many admissions to Creek Nation Community Hospital, he fell in love with all the staff and did his best to keep them in line.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a niece, Misty Ann Newton.

He was survived by his long time companion, Joyce Harrison, of the home; three brothers, Roger Petsemoie and wife, Pat, of Ada, Carl Petsemoie of Holdenville and Herman Petsemoie and wife, Lilah, also of Holdenville; two sisters, Pamela Newton of Holdenville and Carol Shields and husband, Kent, of Ada, and a host of other family and friends.

Interment was held at Calvin City Cemetery in Calvin.

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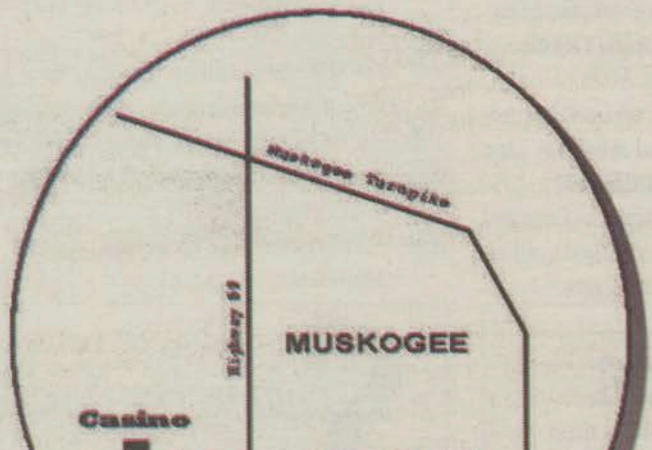
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Muscogee Nation News

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Creek Nation mourns over the loss of three prominent Creek figures

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was saddened by the loss of three prominent Creek figures, Irene Cleghorn, Ken Childers, and Dr. Leola Taylor.

Cleghorn, a former National Council Representative for 16 years, passed away on Jan. 24, in Tulsa. She was born on Nov. 10, 1914 in Holdenville.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Tulsa, and was a member of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community. Funeral services were held on Friday, Jan. 28 at Many Springs Indian Baptist Church in Holdenville.

Childers, a former National Council Representative and Speaker, Childers passed away on Friday, Feb. 4 at Saint Francis Hospital in Broken Arrow. He was born May 31, 1940 in Claremore to Mose and Violet (Williams) Childers.

In 1979 he was the first to be elected to the Muscogee Creek Nation National Council. He was elected speaker for five different terms over a 12 year period. He was also a member of the intertribal council of the Five Civilized Tribes.

He was the Indian Education coordinator for the Coweta Public Schools since 1977. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Feb. 8 at the First Baptist Church in Coweta.

Taylor passed away on Feb. 5 in Claremore. She was born on August 29, 1916 in Eufaula to Lewis Alexandra and Ethel Mae Davis McGilbra. Leola was recently inducted into Chilocco Indian Schools Hall of Fame for her contributions to Indian education. She received her Doctorate of Education in 1973 from OSU where she majored in school administration. She was currently employed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a grant writer.

Funeral services were held Feb. 8 in Owasso at the First Assembly of God Church.

Family and friends welcome home Montemayor

by Gerald Wofford

LAWTON — U.S. Army Private First Class Leslie Montemayor was greeted by her mother Wendy, along with family and friends, after her unit, the 120th Engineering Combat Battalion Company C, was officially deployed at Fort Sill in Lawton, on Tuesday, February 8.

The battalion had arrived earlier that morning at the Lawton Municipal Airport and were given a Heroes Parade through the city. After arriving at Ft. Sill Military Base, the battalion was formerly ushered into the Rinehart Gymnasium where Major General David P. Valcourt, Commanding General of Ft. Sill, addressed the homeward soldiers, family, and friends who were ready to greet and hug.

Military groups that represented another era were also in attendance. Vietnam era veterans proudly applauded this new generation of warriors as the official song of the U.S. Army was played.

The eager crowd displayed their support as numerous American flags were on display, as well as personal signs, such as, “Dad, we love you,” “Welcome home,” and “120th got ‘er done!”

Montemayor, who was stationed overseas at Camp Taqaddum in Iraq, said the first thing she wanted to do was to eat an Indian taco.

WELCOME
HOME
Leslie
Mike
Michael

Creek Festival to honor citizens during Living Legends ceremony

OKMULGEE — New to this year’s Creek Festival is the inaugural *Living Legends* ceremony that will annually honor four tribal citizens who have devoted many years to the betterment of the Creek citizens.

“I’ve visited many tribes throughout the nation and have seen this type of program where they honor their tribal citizens,” said Chief Ellis.

Four individuals will be selected by a committee from nominations sent to the Office of the Principal Chief. The committee will consist of the Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Speaker of the National Council Thomas Yahola, all Creek Nation directors, and the executive director. All committee members must be enrolled Creek citizens.

Nominees must meet the following qualifications: must be a Creek citizen; must be at least 55 years of age; and must have devoted many years to the betterment of the Creek people or Creek Nation government, etc.

“We have great people within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that have served the tribe and its citizens for many years,” said Chief Ellis. “We need to recognize and honor them for their contributions and show our appreciation for their efforts before they pass on.”

The committee will select four individuals from submitted nominees and honor them during Chief Ellis’s evening address on Saturday, June 18.

All nominees must be submitted to the Office of the Principal Chief at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Creek Language Class Update

Editor:

This is a short report on the Creek Language Class started at the Tribal College. The classes were to have started January 5, 2005 but were called off due to weather. The classes started Monday January 10, 2005. There were 18 students enrolled with another later enrolled for a total of nineteen. The classes will run until April 20, 2005.

Jackson Barnett, Okmulgee

Thanks to National Council Representatives

Editor:

We, the Okemah Indian Community Board of Directors would like to thank the National Council Representatives who supported NCA 05-006. Your decision to revise the law will have a definite impact on the progress of our Nation's communities.

As you know, the Nation's hospital is located in our area. It is also the largest employer in Okfuskee County. Many of our community members work at the facility. The revised law will encourage them to participate in our community governments.

We extend a special appreciation to Okfuskee County Representative Lena Wind for her dedication and support.

Mvto,
Betty Scott, OIC Board
Rhonda Hill, OIC Board Secretary, Okemah

Loved one looking to find WWII Veteran

Editor:

I would like to find Pvt. Joe Spain, service number 38181246, Native American of Oklahoma who served in the Army during WWII with Co. L, 7th Inf. Regt., 3rd division. Pvt Spain served as a medic for my father's platoon. Joe never talked about the tribe he belonged to. My father only knows that Joe was from Oklahoma. My father has not seen Joe since he was captured by the Germans on Sept. 15, 1944 in France. We do know that Joe did come home from the war.

My father would like to talk to Joe again. Joe Probably thinks that my father is dead as he was wounded the day he was captured. The 3rd Division books all listed my father as missing in action. The truth of the matter is that my father was a prisoner of War for 228 days.

My father speaks very highly of how skilled Joe was at being a medic and working with the soldiers. My father remembers Joe and would once again like to have contact with him.

If anyone in your tribe knows of Joe Spain and he probably would be in the age range of 70-80 years old. Please ask him to contact my father. Mailing address: Morris F. Snyder, 124 Seyler Road, Fleetwood, PA or if he has e-mail capabilities my e-mail address is Pkewcout@comcast.net

Any assistance would be appreciated.

Pattie Essig, Boiling Springs, PA
Daughter of a WWII Veteran

Search for Tribal Member

Editor:

I am writing your office in hopes of finding a Tribal member that is able to come get my 17 month old son out of CPS Care. My Aunt has spoken to my Uncle about this situation and Uncle George is 71 and unable to care for my son. I have been a drug addict for many years, I am sorry today. I have been looking for a place that takes children and single mothers and helps them through rehab. I love my son dearly, if you have children you can understand a parent's love. I know I am desperate, my heart aches.

I could very well be incarcerated until 3-14-07 and who would wish to give me back my child after loving him and caring for him that long. Well, I can only hope a person of God would be that person. Any how I am at a loss as to what to do and where to turn. I have wrote two tribal offices and one here in Texas and one Daniel Deerinwater at the Southern Plains Region and have had on reply this was several months ago. My hearing is in April 2005 there is an April Welch of Family Services in Okmulgee that has spoken with my attorney but she says the tribe does not want custody of my son.

So please help in any way that you can. My address is P.O. Box 1300, Lockhart, TX 78644.

Angelique Cook, Lockhart, TX

Expression of appreciation

Editor:

Dear Mr. Almerigi and Hospital Auxiliary:

This is just a "Letter of Appreciation" to let you know how much you have been appreciated through out the years with all of your important deeds in providing necessities to the Creek Nation Community Hospital and Okemah Clinic. We cannot express in words, how much your numerous significant changes have assisted in establishing an outstanding facility for the staff and assistance in prevailing patient care.

The hospital Auxiliary has made a tremendous impact on the facility and we would like to take this opportunity to, "Thank you and your Committee!"

The patients, families, and visitors have commented on the changes that have been made from the Chapel to the flower gardens, especially the flower gardens. Patients have informed us of how beautiful the flowers are and has reminded them that, "God is still at work with nature and most important with their health".

Thanks to people like you and your committee, we all have a facility to be proud of!

Once again, "Thank you and your committee: for the past year and wishing you much success for the upcoming year!

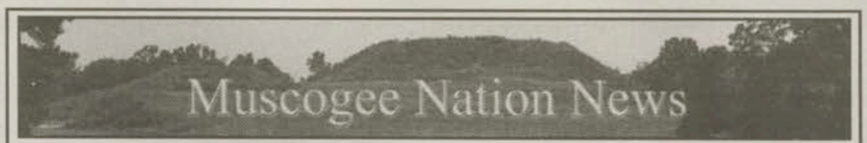
Allen Wind, Hospital Administrator
Creek Nation Community Hospital & Okemah Clinic

Family thanks people for support

Editor:

We would like to thank the following people for

please see **LETTERS**..., page 14



Members of the following two associations:

NAJA
Native American Journalist Association

NAPP
The National Association of Photoshop Professionals

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Office of the Principal Chief...

by A.D. Ellis

Since Question 712 passed, November 4, 2004, much has been discussed about *Gaming Compacts*.

As many of our tribal citizens are aware, I have supported compacting with the State of Oklahoma. Question 712 was called many things but mostly it is funding to improve our statewide public education system. Our Creek students attend public schools and we all travel state highways. What is good for Oklahoma is good for Creek Nation. Many Council Members and many citizens oppose anything connected with the state citing, "Our Sovereignty." Do you know what sovereignty is?

Only the United States Congress can take or grant sovereignty to Indian Nations. In 1988, Congress passed the National Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. This gave each state the authority to compact with Indian Tribes for Class III Gaming. This did not become a sovereignty issue, Class II Gaming, which we are familiar with, was a sovereignty issue and in the past, we exercised our sovereignty to operate Class II Gaming. The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) within the next five months will probably declare our present gaming operations illegal without a compact with Oklahoma. This will have a devastating effect on the gaming revenue that we depend on for many programs and services for our people.

The 2005 Tribal Budget received over $20 million from gaming plus $15 million went into our permanent fund (tribal savings account). Some programs funded by our gaming revenue in dollars are the following:

- Executive Branch - $520,000
- Office of Administration - $1,426,569
- Human Development - $2,200,000
- Community Services - $2,00,000
- Tribal Affairs - $869,000
- Office of Justice - $1,160,000
- National Council - $1,682,621
- Judicial Branch - $1,094,638
- National Council Special Appropriations - $2,095,893
- Independent Agencies - $5,323,451
- Health Administration - $1,651,029

Plus more...................

Today I signed legislation to negotiate the purchase of a piece of property in Weleetka for that community. If this is successful, the money to pay for the property will come from gaming revenue. Holdenville wants to purchase two tracts of land as well and it will also be purchased with gaming dollars.

The expansion five years ago at Okemah to build a casino that provided jobs and money for our citizens was paid for with gaming revenue ($400,000). Land purchases at Eufaula and Checotah were with gaming revenue. Money to build the Coweta Clinic is gaming revenue. I could go on and on such as 500 Creek people are employed due to the gaming industry. The new Elderly Nutrition Center in Bristow was built with gaming profits, the $2 million spent on school clothing for our children was gaming dollars. All the grants given to churches, ceremonial grounds and fire departments are funded through gaming profits.

The National Council Special Appropriations to repair homes, citizens to travel, emergency health care for children, community vans and elder transportation are a few more.

I would rather that gaming was not our main source of income as many others feel but it is a necessity for now. Until we can diversify into other businesses, industries and create more conventional type jobs for our people, we need our gaming opportunities. This we are beginning by investing dollars into the Trade and Commerce Authority, Construction and the High Tech Industry.

Another product of gaming dollars was a $500,000 Matching Funds Grant to construct Weleetka, Twin Hills, Sapulpa and Tulsa Community Centers in the 90's. Let's not forget funds for the annual Creek Nation Festival & Rodeo and our beautiful Veterans Memorial.

Class III Gaming should double our present earnings and provide more and better services for our people. This is why I supported compacting with the State of Oklahoma. I was elected to move this nation forward and to do the very best that I can for our Creek Citizens. This administration will provide the BEST Tribal Government possible with '*assets to serve our people*'.

Remember, the compact on Class III Gaming with the State of Oklahoma is not a "Sovereignty Issue". The sovereignty issue was addressed when Class II Gaming (what we now have) went into effect.

The next town hall meeting will be at Koweta Community Center, March 10, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. *Mvto!*

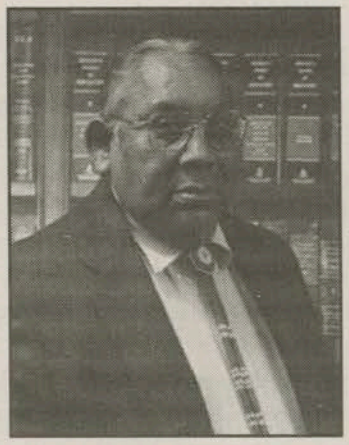
Second opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

Principal Chief Ellis, Sherry Corbin and I went to Washington, D.C on January 30th and returned on February 3rd. Along with the four other Chief's and Governor's of the Five Civilized Tribes Intertribal Council, we met with the Washington delegation from Oklahoma. We were well received by all that we met with.

I was saddened to experience being searched constantly at every building that we entered; and there were several. Even the monuments had walls around them and you could only enter in one way. I remember when none of this in place back in 1970-1974. On Saturday, February 5th, my youngest grandson, age 7, went from Okmulgee to my house. When we were returning, we saw a small herd of deer, about 10 or 12, leaping across the road ahead of us. My grandson was really awed by this sight and he spoke of this several times during the day.

As I took part in the searches and saw the walls, it gave me a feeling that this Nation lives in great fear. I was more amazed at my grandson to have the ability to see the deer's leaping across the road and that is when I knew that we in Oklahoma are truly blessed with being free.



The following is another excerpt from Forty-Second Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology To The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution dated 1924-1925: Another long version of the legend (origin) is contained in a work by Gen. Milfort, who claims to have lived among the Creeks from 1776 to 1796, and to have been made "tastanegy our grand Chef de guerre de in nation Creek." We know that there was no such position as "grand war chief of the Creek nation," every town having had its own tastanagie and its head tastanagi. Still, under McGillivray, with whom Milfort claims to have been associated, a kind of despotism existed under which a friend of the Creek leader might have been advanced to considerable power. Though Milfort's work is written in an intensely egotistical vein and contains numerous exaggerations and misstatements it is evidently founded on fact. The migration legend which it reproduces is probably correct in fundamentals, but Milfort has identified rivers and other geographical features in such a reckless manner that he carries the Creeks over a large pat of the central United States and into places where the nation was scarcely known even by name. The legend is probably a form of the version current at Otciapofa, McGillivray's hometown, and has especial interest for that reason. It is as follows.

"When the Spaniards conquered Mexico everyone knows that this fair country of North America was inhabited by a gentle and peaceable people which, having no knowledge of firearms, was easily subjugated. It had only courage and numbers to oppose to the murderous arms of its enemies; in a word, it was defenseless; for what availed a bow and arrows' against the artillery of an army, feeble in numbers indeed but warlike, intrepid, and led on by an insatiable thirst for gold, which this also, trusting people had been unfortunate enough to display in their eyes."

please see **SECOND**..., page 14

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the November 29, emergency session.

November 29, Emergency session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Sue Johnson**, Muskogee District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

a discussion on State Question 713 was conducted.

December 18th, Regular session

Absent were: **Nancy Watson**, Okfuksee District; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 04-125, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a license and service agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Administration and Global Software Corporation;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 04-126, authorizing the Principal Chief to designate the use of certain property located in Hughes County, Oklahoma;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 04-128, authorizing the Principal Chief to negotiate for and purchase a restricted mineral interest in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 04-130, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an easement contract and convey an easement to East Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. for the purpose of providing and maintaining electrical services to the property utilized by Duck Creek Indian Community;

• approved as amended (20-2-1) TR 04-131, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for the purpose of constructing a health facility/senior assistant living center;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; and **Williams**, Okmulgee;

abstain were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• killed on the floor (23-0-0) TR 04-132, confirming the nomination of **Dr. Pete G. Coser** to serve on the Oklahoma Tribal University Board of Regents;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 04-133, confirming the nomination of **Robert F. Bible** to serve on the Oklahoma Tribal University Board of Regents;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 04-134, confirming the nomination of **Ramona J. Mason** to serve on the Oklahoma Tribal University Board of Regents;

• approved (22-1-0) TR 04-135, confirming the nomination of **Pandee Moore** to serve on the Oklahoma Tribal University Board of Regents;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Jones** arrived before vote count was taken;

representative **Barnett** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 04-136, confirming the nomination of **Sharon Mouss** to serve on the Oklahoma Tribal University Board of Regents;

representative **Barnett** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (14-9-0) TR 04-138, confirming the nomination of **Bret Hayes** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System Board of Directors;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representative **Barnett** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 04-141, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute "AIA Document G701-2001" related to the "Construction Management Services Contract" between the Nation and Flintco, Inc. for costs associated with excavation, foundation and steel work at the healthcare clinic in Wagoner County;

• approved as amended (24-0-0) NCA 04-165, authorizing a special appropriation to American Red Cross for the continuance of services in Okmulgee and Okfuskee Counties;

• approved as amended (22-2-0) NCA 04-215, authorizing a special appropriation to Muskogee area art council to purchase a life-size bronze eagle sculpture to be placed at Honor Height Park in Honor of all military who fought for our Freedom;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (17-7-0) NCA 04-216, authorizing a special appropriation to the Okmulgee High School athletic department for the renovation of Harmon Stadium;

Harjo, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Quiett**, Tulsa;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 04-217, appropriating a COPS Tribal Resources grant match and authorizing the expenditure of the COPS Tribal Resources Grant Program Equipment award for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Department;

representative **K. Johnson** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (23-0-0) NCA 04-219, appropriating funds for the purchase of a mineral interest on tribal property located in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma;

• approved (23-1-0) NCA 04-221, authorizing a special appropriation to the A.C.C.E.S. Indian Club of the Haskell Indian Nations University;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 04-222, amending NCA 04-131 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending Title 16, Chapter Four of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and amending and repealing certain laws to reorganize the existing structure of Lighthorse Police) to correct a scribner's error;

• approved (23-1-0) NCA 04-225, authorizing a special appropriation for a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen who needs handicap accessibility in the home;

voting no were: **Ade**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Golden** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 04-226, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Communications Department Fiscal Year 2005 Budget;

• approved (23-1-0) NCA 04-228, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the legal services courts costs & publication fee revolving fund;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee;

representative **Williams** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 04-231, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen for medical expenses;

representative **Wind** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (21-1-1) NCA 04-233, repealing NCA 03-242 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriation funds for the purchase, construction, and erection of a building that will be in addition to the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino to provide extra floor space for additional electronic gaming machines) and to appropriate funds for the renovation project at Creek Nation Tulsa Casino;

representative **Wind** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 04-234, authorizing a special appropriation for the tribal driveways department to purchase a steel building;

representatives **Ade** and **Wind** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 04-235, authorizing the expenditure of the 2004 Native American library services grant award for the cultural and historic preservation (library services)

representatives **Ade** and **Wind** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 04-238, authorizing the appropriation of the FY 2004 transportation improvement funds made available to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation through the Indian reservation roads program annual funding agreement.

January 6th, Emergency session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpvtce; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved (21-0-0) NCR 04-004, authorizing the speaker to execute a special attorney contract between the National Council, Muscogee (Creek) Nation and **David McCullough**, attorney at law, of the law firm of Michael Minnis & Associates, P.C.;

• approved (20-1-0) TR 04-142, creating and authorizing the negotiation team on tobacco compact issues with the State of Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee;

• approved (20-1-0) TR 04-143, sending objections to the United States Secretary of the interior to certain provisions of Class III Gaming Compacts with the State of Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Quiett**, Tulsa;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 04-239, authorizing a special appropriation for a special attorney contract with **David McCullough**, attorney at law, of the law firm of Michael Minnis & Associates, P.C.;

voting no were: **Cleghorn**, Tulsa.

Births

Chenoa Brooke Barnett

TULSA — Chenoa Brooke Barnett was born October 23, at St. Francis Hospital to Stephanie Good Voice and Roger Barnett.

Barnett

She weighed 6 lbs. and 7 ounces and was 19.5 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Sally Good Voice and the late Kenneth Good Voice of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are Rachel Barnett and the late Joseph Barnett of Bristow.

Chenoa was welcomed home by big brother, Eco and a host of relatives.

Sophie Helen Walker

CYPRESS, TX — Sophie Helen Walker was born on November 1 to Rusty and Paige Walker.

S. Walker

She was 7 lbs and 14.5 ounces and was 19.5 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Penny Hunt and Gary Hunt of Houston, TX.

Paternal grandparents are Russell Walker and Mary Colvin of Oklahoma City.

Paternal great grandparents are Jefferson Morgan II of Oklahoma City and the late Mary Waken of Enid.

Sophie has one older sister, Zoe Walker.

Birthday

Walker celebrates second birthday with family & friends

CYPRESS, TX — Zoe Elizabeth Walker celebrated her second birthday at home with family and friends.

Z. Walker

Walker is the daughter of Rusty and Paige Walker.

Maternal grandparents are Penny Hunt and Gary Hunt of Houston, TX.

Paternal grandparents are Russell Walker and Mary Colvin of Oklahoma City.

Paternal great grandparents are Jefferson Morgan II of Oklahoma City and the late Mary Waken of Enid.

Zoe has one sister, Sophie.

Aunt Katie Smith turns 93

OKMULGEE — Katie Smith turned 93 on January 11. She was the Senior Ms. Muscogee Nation for 2003-04.

Katie was born in a log cabin in 1912 on the Verdigris Bottom along the Verdigris River. She still makes all of her clothes, still puts a flower in the vegetable garden, maintains her own home, loves to cook, drives herself all over town and regularly visits the elderly to keep up their spirits.

KATIE SMITH
SENIOR MS

Smith is a fisherman at heart and would rather be on the side of some bank or in a boat fishing then almost anywhere else. She is still singing with her bluegrass band, "Umy and the Goodtimers" going on 48 years. She is in the Bluegrass Hall of Fame and is always ready to stand up to testify for the Lord any place and time.

Katie has inspired both young and old to keep going and that you are just as young as you chose to be. She attended the Ward schoolhouse and class of 1933 from Chilocco Indian School.

She belongs to the Fuswv clan. Her mother was Sarah Tiger Thomas and her father was Mack Thomas both Creek Indians. As she likes to say, "I have seen the world change from wagon days to rocket ships, from wood burning stoves to microwaves, and from cropping cotton by hand to modern farm equipment that is bigger than most people's house."

Whitehead celebrates with Winnie the Pooh theme

KELLYVILLE — Eli Wayne Whitehead celebrated his first birthday on December 31 with the Winnie the Pooh theme.

Whitehead

He is the son of Orlando Whitehead and Chessa Tieyah of Kellyville.

Maternal grandparents are Chester Tieyah and Debbie Tieyah of Cyril.

Paternal grandparents are Sherri and Steve Whitehead of Sapulpa.

Eli has one older sister, Sage.

Society

Girl participates in soccer team

MUSKOGEE — Robyn Brewster is a junior at Muskogee High School. She is a three year high school varsity soccer player. Robyn, also plays for a Broken Arrow Soccer Club – "The Hurricanes."

Brewster

Brewster plays forward and was selected as the most valuable offensive player in 2004 by the 8 district coaches and VIP by her teammates.

She is currently the goal point leader and hopes to be recruited by a University and continue her soccer career in college.

Brewster has been approached to play for a National Soccer Team that will be traveling to Holland this summer.

Claybrook named recipient of the Mervin Bovaird scholarship

TULSA — Kendra Jo Claybrook has been named the 2004-2005 recipient of the Mervin Bovaird Scholarship to the University of Tulsa.

Claybrook

Claybrook graduated with honors from Tulsa Community College (TCC) in 2004 with an associate in applied science and health information technology. She received the TCC 2003-2004 Provost Scholarship while working on that degree. She was a part of the 2004 All Oklahoma Academic Team, and named to the 2004 Who's who in Junior Colleges as well. As a student of Native American studies, Claybrook was active in the Native American Student Alliance (NASA) of Oklahoma, and served as secretary for the organization.

Kendra is the daughter of Ed and Janice Screechowl. She is the granddaughter of Kenneth and Josephine Factor of the Sasakwa-Holdenville area, and Raymond and Angie Screechowl of the Henryetta-Wilson area. She is the great granddaughter of Daniel and Molly Cook of the Okemah-Holdenville area.

Kendra resides in Collinsville with her husband, Jerry, daughter, Racine; two sons, Talon and Josh.

JOM's Second Annual "Career Fair" a success

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson O'Malley Program's Second Annual "Career Fair" was a huge success, outgrowing last year's facilities. The career fair was moved to Covelle Hall on the OSU Okmuglee Campus where 500 JOM students, sponsors, and presenters interacted on many chosen fields of profession.

The presenters included law enforcement from Lighthorse, Okmuglee Sheriff Dept., Okmuglee Criminal Justice Authority's swat team, EMS, and firefighters. They also brought their patrol cars, an ambulance, and a fire truck for the students to get a first hand look. Also represented were OSU programs that included automotive, air conditioning and refrigeration, computer technology, nursing, watch making with micro technology, prosthesis, graphic design, and web design. MCN represented various career fields including accounting, child care, employment and training, CHR, and Trade and Commerce.

Pictured above is the Okmulgee J.O.M. program members.

This year's "Career Fair" targeted seventh and eighth grade students to give them early exposure to a proposed career field, which will enable them to choose the proper classes as they reach their high school years.

Ray Rodgers, JOM Director from Sapulpa Schools, gave the morning keynote address and the motivational speaker at the close of the day was Brian Jackson, from the "I Believe" program who gave the students a very challenging message to believe in themselves.

JOM program will be hosting the Fifth Annual Challenge Bowl Competition

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Creek Nation's JOM program will be hosting the fifth Annual Challenge Bowl Competition. This years' competition will be held at the Creek Nation Mound on the following dates: April 6 elementary; April 13 middle school; and May 4 high School.

"The Challenge Bowl has been a valuable learning tool to assist the schools in teaching the history and ways of the Muscogee Creek," said Virginia Thomas, JOM Manager. "The use of the language has come to the forefront for the students and many schools are asking for Muscogee language speakers to help continue the language study throughout the year and not just at challenge bowl time."

The challenge bowl has been sanctioned by the National Council. Approximately 80 volunteers contribute their efforts to the challenge bowl. This creates an opportunity for the various departments to come together for one cause and gives Muscogee Creek Nation the occasion to show support to its youth for their educational endeavors. For more information contact Belvin Hill at (918) 732–7840.

Headlands Indian Health Careers Program now accepting applications for Summer 2005

NORMAN — The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center is now accepting applications for its 2005 Headlands Indian Health Careers Program, to be held June 5 through July 30, on the OU Campus.

American Indian high school seniors and first-year college students who are interested in pursuing a career in the health professions are encouraged to apply for this intense eight-week enrichment program offering mini-block courses in calculus, chemistry, physics and biology. These courses are designed to increase the students' knowledge and prepare them for the required college-level math and science coursework in pre-health programs.

Students again will gain experience in the laboratory, strengthen their communication and writing skills, and attend interactive presentations at the OU Health Science Center Colleges of Public Health, Allied Health, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing. Field excursions to health clinics and hospitals also are included.

Travel, lodging and meal expenses will be provided for each student accepted into the program.

Applications for the Headlands Program can be found at www.headlands.ouhsc.edu or call (405)271-2250. Application deadline is March 15,2005.

The headlands program is sponsored by the Oklahoma Native American EXPORT Center with funding from the National Center or Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health.

Scholarships and Programs for Native American Students

Two scholarships will be awarded to an American Indian/ Alaska Native student pursuing a degree in a natural resources field. The scholarship amount this year is $200.

This scholarship comes to you from the American Indian/ Alaska Native Employees Association for NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation). There are two categories; one for members of the AIANEA and one for any American Indian or Alaska Native student in the natural resources field. The deadline for applications is July 1, 2005, and the scholarship recipients will be announced on August 1. For the application criteria and form, visit the website at www.aianea.com and click on Scholarship Information. Your contact for questions is Kurt Cates, AIANEA Scholarship Committee Chair, P.O. Box 306, Fort Hall, ID 83203. Phone:203-478-3778. E-mail: kurt.cates@id.usda.gov

Tribal College Board of Regents hold first meeting

By Josh Slane

OKMULGEE — The Board of Regents for the Tribal College held their first official meeting on Wednesday, February 9.

Ramona Mason was elected as chairman of the board. Dr. Blue Clark was voted in as the vice-chair. The Board of Regents appointed Dr. James King as the interim president of the Tribal College. Dr. King accepted the position as an in kind service.

The Board of Regents will meet the second Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the District Court conference room. The public is invited to attend. Principal Chief, A. D. Ellis was also in attendance, as was Speaker Thomas Yahola, Judge Moore, and Judge Amos McNac.

Pictured above, from left to right, are Chief A.D. Ellis, Blue Clark, Pundee Ramirez, Robert Bible, Sharon Mouss, Ramona Mason, and Thomas Yahola, National Council Speaker

INSIDE STATE QUESTION 712: WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN? Part II

by Sara Gibson

In last month's issue of the Muscogee Nation News, we examined the *pro* side to State Question 712. While the passage of the state question effects all Oklahoma citizens, its impact can have more of a positive or negative effect on the members of the 39 federally recognized American Indian tribes which are headquartered in Oklahoma. To have a better understanding as to why some American Indian tribes have yet to sign the gaming compact, this month the *con* side of the recently passed State Question 712 will be examined and broken down so everyone will be able to have a clearer concept and understanding on reasons why some tribes have yet to sign the compact.

In case you missed last month's issue, SQ 712, is also known as the Education and Jobs Referendum, is a measure that enacts the State-Tribal Gaming Act. The Act contains a Model Gaming Compact offered to federally recognized Indian Tribes. The compact term is 15 years with automatic renewal for additional successive terms. If at least 4 tribes enter into the compact, it will not only allow more gaming to tribes but it will allow the racetracks of the state to operate gaming.

Why is the compact so controversial? The two main reasons for opposition continually focused on throughout the November elections were the moral issues of gaming and the sovereignty issue that American Indian tribes would face.

First, the moral issue: "Oklahomans from various sectors of society believe that gambling is immoral because of its widely documented, commonly associated problems such as: gambling addiction; child abuse; domestic abuse; divorce; the destruction of families; increased crime; exploitation of the poor; increase suicide; government corruption; economic instability; demise of local businesses; and gambling-induced personal bankruptcies." (Oklahoma Family Policy Council)

While question of morals played big in the November elections the position of the state's economic and education standings outweighed the concerns and legitimized the reasons as to why so many Oklahomans voted the way they did.

The second issue and more specific to Native people is the topic of sovereignty. There is nothing more important to Indian governments and Indian people than sovereignty.

There are basically three types of sovereigns in the United States. First, there is the federal government, which is sometimes called the supreme sovereign. Next, there are state governments, which derive their sovereignty from the federal government, and finally, there are Indian governments.

Tribal sovereignty is an inherent function tribes have because they were the first form of government. American Indian sovereignty is recognized by the United States Constitution. Indians' sovereignty predates both federal and state governments. That means Indian governments have inherent sovereignty which is not derived from any other government, but rather from the people themselves.

The recognition from the United States for American Indians as being a sovereign nation came in the form of treaties. Treaties were binding ties between two forms of government such as the United States and an American Indian tribe. Once two governments entered into a treaty, they were recognizing each other as sovereign nations.

With sovereignty, tribes are empowered to establish their own tribal governments, write their own constitutions and bylaws and create and live by their own self-governance.

One reason as to why tribes have not signed the compact is due to the concern about sovereignty. Sovereignty is an issue which cannot and will not be jeopardized.

SQ 712 states that once a tribe enters the compact, it is binding for a term of 15 years. Once a tribe enters the gaming compact, they then are not limited to number of gaming machines they can use, BUT before they can install the new games — which are described as Class III yet in actuality still fall short of the real Las Vegas style "one armed bandits" — the tribes must first pay the state of Oklahoma an initial amount to simply install the games and then each year after that they must continue to pay the state. What this means, is that should a tribe decide to build a casino on trust land, which is the tribe's land, they must pay to use it. The question of sovereignty arises with this.

Why should tribes have to pay when the land is already theirs and when the state of Oklahoma already passed SQ 712, why should they have to go through the state in order to set up and install the new games when they are sovereign? Because tribes are sovereign, they don't have to pay state and local taxes. It should be stated that land in question must have already been places in trust prior to the pass of the 1988 Gaming Act.

As it stands, after the initial amount the tribes pay, each year the amount they will have to pay will be no more than 6% of their gross total revenue. So, if a tribe of starts off with a slow business and only grosses $150,000, they will pay 6% but if the next year, they gross $150,000,000, they will still continue to pay 6%. There is no cap as to how much the state will receive just a cap to the percentage they will receive. In reality, what this means is that tribes will be paying 25 to 28 % of the gaming revenue when they pay on the gross rather then the net income. In 2004, Indian gaming pulled in $18.5 billion. There are now 411 Indian casinos in the United States stated the Washington (AP).

Many wonder why a tribe would enter into the compact and jeopardize their sovereignty. One possible answer is while it may seem like sovereignty will be threatened, one must accept that each time a contract is signed between the state or federal government, a little bit of sovereignty is forfeited. However, no tribe will ever completely lose their sovereignty.

The biggest reason tribes have agreed to sign and enter into the compact would be the amount of economic development that is possible for the tribes. Not only has this been what tribes who are involved with gaming have been waiting for, but many tribal leaders believe the time is now to seize the opportunity to advance. There will always be barriers to cross and bridges to jump. The advantages must be realized. One must consider the amount of help the different programs will be able to offer once the revenue begins to be generated. Some tribal leaders have stated that with the increased revenue, they intend to increase the number of homes that are built, the number of scholarships available and increase assistance in all of their other programs. This is all without mentioning the number of jobs the new facilities would create allowing the unemployment rate to decrease.

Not all change is good but change does happen, whether it is wanted or not. It is just a matter of time and patience in deciding in making the leap of faith in something you believe in or waiting out the storm to see what is yet to come. Although SQ 712 has already passed, at least now you, the Muscogee (Creek) citizen have a better understanding as to what the real story is and why some tribes have signed and some have not.

Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa: February Promotions

Get Away With a Year's Pay Through March 27th

What would you do if you could take off a whole year from work and still get paid? Tour the world, golf every day, or maybe spend more time with family and friends? Well, here is your chance during the Get Away with a Year's Pay promotion at Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa. Earn drawing tickets daily, Sunday through Thursday. Then, be here at 9 pm on March 27th, when we give away a Year's Pay and a new Ford Expedition. To ensure everyone gets a fair shot at some cash, we will award a months's Pay every Sunday in February and March. Sunday just won't get any better than this! Make the New Year one to remember and get away in a new vehicle with a year's pay at Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa.

Escape to Money Mondays

Mondays through February 28th, 6pm to 10pm

Ladies, ESCAPE to Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa on Monday evenings for free massages and hourly drawings for your shot at 15 seconds in the NEW money machine. Plus, the two ladies collecting the most cash from money machine each Monday night will receive a key that could start a new Ford Escape on February 28th!

Tropical Two for Tuesdays

Tuesdays, 10 am - 2pm

Tropical Tuesdays are heating up with our new Two for Tuesdays specials! Cache Card members over age 50 will receive double jackpots on selected machines, two for one lunch specials in our food court, and double buy-ins during Bingo's matinee session. One lucky senior each Tuesday will win a choice of $500 in cash or a chance to spin the new wheel of incredible prizes.

Wheelin' Wednesdays

Wednesdays through March 2nd, 6pm to 10 pm

You're in for wild ride every Wednesday night at Creek Nation Casino. Don't miss the drawings every half hour for up to $500. Two lucky winners each week will win $500 and a key. And on March 2nd, one lucky person will ride off on a brand new Harley Davidson V-Rod motorcycle from Myers-Duren Harley Davidson of Tulsa!

THE HEARTBEAT OF THE PEOPLE: Keeping our native language alive

by Sara Gibson

There are over 500 American Indian tribes in North America, 39 have their capitals located in Oklahoma. In today's society, while Native Americans are continuously unified under the pan-American Indian stereotype, the one major component that will always set us apart, not only from other ethnic groups but from other tribes as well is our language. While there may similar languages, there is truly only one Muscogee (Creek) Nation language.

Before I continue, I must mention that while the language of the people continue to be passed down from generation to generation, it continues to die out at a faster pace than what we were prepared for or readily want or care to admit. As each decade passes, it seems new variations of the language surface, simply because long ago, our elders were told the only way their children would survive in the "white man's world" would be to let go of their language.

While elders pass on, the language and dialects they hold pass on as well, leaving the younger generations to search their memories of those times when they sat listening to their grandparents speak to one another, joking, laughing, telling stories about times past. In present times, many of the elders will speak and intermix English and their native tongue together.

In order to do our part in preserving our language and keeping it alive, the language page has been created in order to serve the Muscogee (Creek) people.

While there is only one Muscogee (Creek) language, there are, however, a variation of pronunciations and spellings depending on which location an individual grew up. For example, a person from Holdenville or Castle may say or spell the word "money" one way while someone from Wagoner or Catoosa may say it and/or spell it another way. At times, the "correct" way to say or spell a word can be controversial in regards to who is right or wrong, but it all depends on who you ask and where they are from. The reason for such discrepancies goes back to the fact of the language dying out and continually experiencing change from one generation to another.

The Muscogee (Creek) language is vital to the people. Many outsiders do not realize the significant role the language plays in regards to the history, culture, values and customs as well as the economic development of the Muscogee (Creek) people. Without the tribe's language, a sense of self identity can easily be lost.

Our Native language is the heartbeat of our people. We must all do our very best in trying to preserve it for ourselves, children and grandchildren. No longer are times of past when it was "wrong" to be Indian, now is our time to show our pride and strength in our culture.

Beginning Creek paperback for sale

NORMAN — Beginning Creek provides a basic introduction to the language and culture of the Mvskoke-speaking peoples, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole Indians. Written by linguistic anthropologist Pamela Innes and native speakers Linda Alexander and Bertha Tilkens, the text is accessible to general readers and students and is accompanied by two compact discs.

The volume begins with an introduction to Creek history and language and then each chapter introduces readers to a new grammatical feature, vocabulary set and series of conversational sentences. Translation exercises from English to Mvskoke and Mvskoke to English reinforce new words and concepts. The chapters conclude with brief essays by Linda Alexander and Bertha Tilkens on Creek culture and history and suggestions for further reading.

The two audio CD's present examples of ceremonial speech, songs and storytelling and include pronunciations of Mvskoke language keyed to exercises and vocabulary lists in the book. The combination of recorded and written material gives students a chance to learn and practice Mvskoke as an oral and written language.

Linda Alexander has taught Mvskoke language classes at the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University. Bertha Tilkens is a consultant with the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing, translating and administering health questionnaires to Muscogee and Seminole people. Alexander and Tilkens are fluent Mvskoke speakers. Beginning Creek is 256 pages in length with 13 illustrations, 47 tables and was published in June 2004.

2nd Anniversary Bash
March 5th, 2005

Julian B. and his band
"The Rubba Dubs"
1st Show------2:00 pm
2nd Show------6:00 pm

Image of Elvis Production &
The Expense Account Band
1st Show-----8:00 pm
2nd Show-----10:00 pm

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!
Julian B Show $15.00
Image of Elvis $25.00

ENTER TO WIN TICKETS AT DUCK CREEK CASINO DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY WE WILL BE DRAWING FOR FREE TICKETS!

Where OK Comes To Play!

CREEK NATION Casino

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Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending September 30, 2004 Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending September 30, 2004 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditure, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending September 30, 2004. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending September 30, 2004.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of September 30, 2004.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

GENERAL FUND:	**BUDGETS**	**ENCUMBERED**	**EXPENDED**	**BALANCE**
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	261,208.00	0.00	0.00	261,208.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOP/LAND	224,875.00	1,400.00	45,175.00	178,300.00
TREASURY	3,231.00	0.00	(1,196.00)	4,427.00
ANGEL TREE	2,333.00	0.00	1,066.00	1,267.00
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	34,903.00	34,903.00	0.00	0.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	1,483,480.00	620.00	1,363,032.00	119,828.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	881,074.00	30,967.00	638,063.00	212,044.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	2,474,631.00	4,856.00	2,353,800.00	115,975.00
CONSUMER LOANS	0.00	0.00	3,221.00	(3,221.00)
CREEK NATION BINGO	16,630,680.00	61,464.00	13,158,149.00	3,411,067.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	1,131,943.00	5,176.00	596,767.00	530,000.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	0.00	0.00	108,033.00	(108,033.00)
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	3,413.00	0.00	2,087.00	1,326.00
CODIFICATION	120,000.00	0.00	120,078.00	(78.00)
4-H CLUB	71,601.00	0.00	36,665.00	34,936.00
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL	3,000.00	0.00	2,998.00	2.00
HENSSLER ASSET MGMT	0.00	0.00	72,021.00	(72,021.00)
NICWA	3,333.00	0.00	2,977.00	356.00
MCN OVERSIGH COMMITTEE	287,718.00	51,045.00	205,649.00	31,024.00
FIRST CAPITAL MGMT PREM	0.00	0.00	78,578.00	(78,578.00)
BANK ONE CONSOLIDATION	0.00	0.00	58.00	(58.00)
TRIBAL BUDGET	72,042.00	0.00	71,751.00	291.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	2,900.00	0.00	1,891.00	1,009.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	2,134,733.00	9,132.00	1,652,785.00	472,816.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND:	**25,827,103.00**	**199,563.00**	**20,513,648.00**	**5,113,892.00**
DEPT. OF LABOR:				
WIA-TITLE I '02	22,611.00	0.00	22,340.00	271.00
WIA-TITLE IVA '03	509,309.00	0.00	501,226.00	8,083.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '03	107,986.00	0.00	100,497.00	7,489.00
WIA-TITLE IVA '04	658,529.00	71.00	132,917.00	525,541.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '04	488,332.00	0.00	155,004.00	333,328.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	36.00	0.00	36.00	0.00
TOTAL DEPT OF LABOR:	**1,786,803.00**	**71.00**	**912,020.00**	**874,712.00**
HOUSING & URBAN DEV:				
HUD-NAHASDA '00	3,825,102.00	63,585.00	2,344,591.00	1,416,926.00
HUD-SPAUL PAC LINIC	25,728.00	7,158.00	18,570.00	0.00
HUD-ROSS '01	102,593.00	0.00	12,945.00	89,648.00
HUD-NAHASDA '01	10,346,562.00	0.00	4,070,098.00	6,276,464.00
HUD-DRUG ELIMINATION	118,220.00	0.00	103,155.00	15,065.00
HUD-FOOD DISTRIBUTION	190,049.00	3,235.00	171,213.00	15,601.00
HUD-NAHASDA '02	17,174,584.00	0.00	4,576,913.00	12,597,671.00
HUD-NAHASDA '03	17,353,988.00	13,028.00	371,806.00	16,969,154.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	491,526.00	0.00	491,525.00	1.00
TOTAL HUD:	**49,628,352.00**	**87,006.00**	**12,160,816.00**	**37,380,530.00**
DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SVC:				
FAMILY PRESERVATION '01	0.00	0.00	(345.00)	345.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '02	0.00	0.00	(198.00)	198.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '02	176,617.00	0.00	176,617.00	0.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '02	317,018.00	0.00	317,018.00	0.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '02	29,203.00	0.00	29,203.00	0.00
LIHEAP '03	2,096.00	0.00	2,096.00	0.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '03	173,724.00	0.00	170,142.00	3,582.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '03	1,008,115.00	51,468.00	844,024.00	112,623.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '03	1,298,075.00	43,031.00	935,656.00	319,388.00
HEAD START '03	467,189.00	0.00	437,641.00	29,548.00
TITLE IV-B '03	223,693.00	0.00	223,693.00	0.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '03	244,443.00	0.00	232,443.00	12,000.00
LIHEAP '04	219,501.00	0.00	162,745.00	56,756.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '04	226,320.00	0.00	51,186.00	175,134.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '04	1,486,113.00	2,003.00	173,627.00	1,310,483.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '04	2,493,150.00	6,215.00	1,319,139.00	1,167,796.00
HEAD START '04	2,378,880.00	59,265.00	1,557,373.00	762,242.00
TITLE IV-B '04	242,984.00	0.00	2,213.00	240,771.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '04	234,740.00	0.00	446.00	234,294.00
TOTAL DHHS:	**11,221,861.00**	**161,982.00**	**6,634,719.00**	**4,425,160.00**
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE:				
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '04	414,000.00	0.00	412,244.00	1,756.00
TOTAL USDA:	**414,000.00**	**0.00**	**412,244.00**	**1,756.00**
PROGRAM INCOME:				
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	35,217.00	0.00	21,839.00	13,378.00
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	757,130.00	55.00	257,470.00	499,605.00
USDA HEAD START REIMBURSE	139,617.00	0.00	99,412.00	40,205.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	34,128.00	0.00	29,283.00	4,845.00
ELECTION BOARD	18,560.00	0.00	6,867.00	11,693.00

Muscogee Nation Vocational Rehabilitation

OKEMAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Services is a program designed to help American Indians with disabilities to prepare for employment based on whether their disability is a substantial impediment to employment.

American Indians residing within Creek Nation boundaries who are interested in vocational rehabilitation are encouraged to apply. If you would like more information about the program, visit their office located at 401 South Woody Guthrie Street, Okemah, or contact a counselor at (918) 623-1197.

AEDC signs agreement with Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

ARNOLD AFB, TENN. — The U. S. Air Force's Arnold Engineering Development Center entered into a formal agreement with the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town recently, marking the first such formal agreement for the center.

In a signing ceremony in the commander's office at Arnold Air Force Base on Jan. 12, AEDC Commander Brigadier General David Stringer and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town King Lewis McGertt, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MOU formalizes cooperation between Arnold Air Force Base and the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town concerning the Native American Graves Repatriation Act and other Federal Acts and orders.

Frank Duncan explained that the memorandum of understanding establishes a formal working relationship between the AEDC and the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and will be used to protect and preserve potential cultural resources that may be located on Arnold Air Force Base property.

"We're absolutely delighted to sign this MOU," said General Stringer. "We're a much stronger nation because of our shared heritage, so this is the right thing to do."

McGertt, a veteran of both the U.S. Air Force and the Army National Guard in Arizona who served in the Vietnam conflict and Operation Desert Storm, said "Our people will be glad to see the military is involved with the American Indians."

Before signing the document, the McGertt hearkened back to his military days, rendering General Stringer a military salute, which signifies respect in military tradition. The general, also in keeping with military tradition, returned McGertt's salute, indicating mutual respect.

According to Duncan, archeological studies on the nearly 40,000 acres controlled by Arnold Air Force Base have not turned up any permanent Native American villages or burial sites.

"But we have found that this area was important hunting ground and trade area which may have supported a number of seasonal camps for ancestors of the Thlopthlocco at one time," he said. "We look forward to working closely with the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and other tribes involved with our program to better understand the resources we have and implement the best measures needed to protect any site that may be located on Arnold Air Force Base Property.

Duncan said that the AEDC Environmental Management Division is working with a number of other tribes concerning the Cultural Resources Management Program and plan to sign more MOUs with other Native American communities in the future.

"As AEDC continues to work with the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and other American Indian tribes, we strengthen the quality of the Cultural Resource Management Program we have here at AEDC," he said.

Senior Spelling Bee

OKMULGEE — Senior citizens are invited to participate in a spelling bee at 2:00 p.m. on March 8 at Eastern Oklahoma Development District Area Agency on Aging, 1012 N. 38th St.

If you live in Adair, Cherokee, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Sequoyah, or Wagoner County and are 60 years old or older, you are eligible to participate.

Five places will be awarded with first and second place winners competing in the State Senior Spelling Bee on May 4 at the Oklahoma State Conference on Aging in Midwest City.

For more information or to register, contact Karen Sedberry at (918) 682-7891 or the Senior Info-Line at 1 (800) 211-2116.

Men, Women, and Co-ed Slow Pitch Tournament

OKMULGEE — This year's Creek Nation Festival Slow Pitch Tournament will be held on June 10 - 12, a week before the Creek Nation Festival. The nonrefundable entry fee for each division is $165 in the form of a cashiers check or a money order payable to the Creek Nation Festival. Deadline for entries is May 6.

For more information please contact Victor Bear at (918) 732-7679 or (918) 261-2315.

Wild Onion dinners and breakfast sales announced

Okemah: On March 5, Springfield Methodist church will be having an all you can eat breakfast sale, at the Okemah Indian Nutrition Center. It will be from 7 a.m. until 11a.m. The cost for the breakfast is $5.

Holdenville: On March 5, Salt Creek United Methodist Church will be having their Annual Wild Onion Dinner at the Holdenville Creek Indian Community Center located at 224 E. Poplar, from 11a.m. to 5p.m. The cost for adults is $7 and children 10 and under is $4.

Coweta: On March 5, Davis Chapel will be having an all you can eat wild onion dinner from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost for the dinner is $5. The church is located 1 1/2 miles south of Coweta on Hwy. 72.

Okemah: On April 12, Thlopthlocco Methodist Church will be having an all you can eat wild onion dinner. The cost for adults is $7 and children, 10 and under, are $3.50. The church is located 7 miles south of Okemah on Hwy. 27.

Okmulgee: On March 19, an all you can eat, wild onion dinner will be held at Big Cussetah Church, located 3 miles east on new Morris highway and 3 miles south on Prairie Bell road. The cost for adults is $6 and children under 10 is $3. Carry outs are available for $6. The dinner will be from 11a.m. to 3 p.m.

Okemah: On April 2, Springfield Methodist Church will be having their all you can eat wild onion dinner. The cost for adults is $6 and children 12 and under is $3. Springfield is located 2 miles south on HWY 27 from Okemah, 4 miles east and 1 mile south.

Okmulgee: On April 2, Okmulgee Indian Community Center will be having an wild on dinner from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. For more information, contact Gloria Lowe at (918) 299-7511 or Doris Roanhorse at (918) 758-2710.

CREEK CLASSIFIEDS

ANNOUNCING NEW CREEK CITIZEN SERVICE!

The Muscogee Nation News will be offering a new classifieds page for all Muscogee Creek Citizens. All classified ads will be free to place on this page. Space will be limited and offered on a first come-first serve basis. This services will begin in the MNN March 2005 issue. To place your ad please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at 918-732-7643.

Help wanted, houses for lease-rent or sale, Jewelery, Farm & Garden, Electronics, Transportation, Pets, Miscellaneous, Clothes, Traditional Items & Services, Giveaways and more!

Tribal citizens participate in the gift of peace and no war

NASHVILLE, TENN. — In gifting protocol, many times a blanket or quilt was given between the European people and the American Indian people. The gift of peace and no warfare given to Lord Alderdice was a quilt made by Melba Checote Eads of the Native American Gatherers' Fellowship. This gift and others were given to Lord Alderdice and the Irish delegation during his trip to visit the Indians of Tennessee on January 25. In turn the Irish delegation gave lovely gifts of Irish linen and silver charms to the program committee.

Pictured above is Chief Ellis and Congressman John Sullivan.

Tribal heads from historical Tribes of the state came and sent honored guests to welcome Lord Alderdice to the country. Among the honored tribal heads was Principal Chief Smith of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Principal Chief Ellis of the Great Muscogee Nation of Oklahoma sent his daughter, Sandra Ellis, and Mississippi Choctaws Honorable Tribal Council members Gerald Stoliby, Haywood Bell and Beasley Denson.

David Teat, President of the Advisory Council, read the proposed resolution for the state of Tennessee to recognize the Historical Tribes from the Ancient Mound Builders to the Removed Indian peoples of Tennessee. An opening prayer was given by Rev. Barnoskee of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and a word was given by Lay Speaker Melba Checote and Rev. Don Washington of the Great Muscogee Nation.

A program followed with the spirit of gifting and good will along with dancing, drumming, flute music and tribal singers from the Mississippi Choctaws of Ripley, Tennessee and the Muscogee Creek singers from Oklahoma.

Emerging Leaders Program

The Indian Health Services Department is committed to affording employment preference to American Indian and Alaska Native candidates who meet the Secretary of the Interior's definition of Indian for appointment to vacancies within the IHS in accordance with established IHS policy as outlined in the Indian Health Manual, Part 7, Chapter 3. The IHS is also committed to achieving full and equal opportunity without discrimination because of race, religion, color, gender, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, and sexual orientation. The IHS has a zero tolerance for sexual harassment or reprisal.

Multiple positions in the following areas are available:

Administrative
Information Technology
Public Health
Social Sciences

Rotational assignments per career development plan.

All positions start at the GS - 9 level only. College transcripts must be submitted with your application.

Positions have known promotion potential to the GS - 12 level only. Travel and relocation expenses may be paid.

If you are a dynamic, achievement-orientated individual with a Bachelor's Degree (with qualifying work experience) or higher, the Emerging Leaders Program is an opportunity of a lifetime! The Emerging Leaders Program will allow you to explore diverse career fields, involving your educational background within the Indian Health Services (IHS) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), while providing you with the skills and experience for a career with the Federal Government.

This challenging 24 month program provides training in departmental core competencies based on your chosen career path and multiple job rotations to gain familiarity with programs across the IHS and HHS. A chosen mentor will also provide career development advice and support. There are four career paths from which to choose: Administrative, Information Technology, Public Health, and Social Sciences. Please indicate your preference for a career path on your application.

You qualify for a GS - 9 position if you are a U.S. citizen and have a Bachelor's degree with at least two years of qualifying work experience that demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully perform the duties of this position, or you have a Master's degree or higher level degree from an accredited college or university.

For specific questions regarding the Emerging Leaders Program (at IHS only), contact Ms. Vee Garcia at (301) 594-3146 or e-mail her at: vgarcia@hge.ihs.gov.

A copy of this announcement may be obtained by downloading from the IHS website at: www.ihs.gov.

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Case Management Specialist CHS

Requirements: Completion of an accredited curriculum in Licensed Practical Nursing and a minimum of one year of experience.

Cook's Aid - Sapulpa (part-time)

Requirements: High School Diploma and one year related work experience. Incumbent must possess a valid food handler's permit and a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Pharmacy Clerk - Okmulgee

1 permanent, 1 temporary

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of training or a program in Health Information, Medical Office Technology or related field would benefit incumbent. Job experience in a medical setting and some knowledge of medical terms will benefit incumbent. Incumbent must possess a current Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Collection Specialist (temporary)

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. An Associates Degree in accounting or a related business field is preferred. A minimum of three years of relevant experience work is required for non-degree applicants. Degreed applicants should have at least one year relevant work experience.

Patient Registration Clerk - (temporary) 4 positions

Sapulpa, Eufaula, Okemah, and Okmulgee

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of a program or training in Medical Office Terminology or related field is preferred. A minimum of one year relevant experience is required.

Benefits Clerk:

Requirements: Associates Degree in related field or two years relevant experience in a related field or an equivalent combination of education and experience is required. Incumbent must possess a current Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Native American Job Fair

The Native American Times newspaper and the Native American employment and Training Center, both located in Tulsa, are joining forces to co-host the Native American Job Fair 2005. It will be held at the Tulsa Sheraton Hotel from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on February 25.

For more information please call 918-438-6548 or visit www.nativetimes.com/jobfair on the internet.

Personnel

Housing Secretary

Requirements: Associates Degree or technical training in secretarial field with excellent computer skills. Associates Degree with three or more years experience in secretarial field with computer operation and public relations is preferred. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License.

Inspector for Housing Division

Requirements: Associates Degree with one to three years of experience in residential construction; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Three to four years experience would be preferred. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License.

Teacher's Aide (3 Positions)

Okmulgee Head Start, Haskell Head Start, and Tulsa Child Care:

Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent. Must have knowledge and experience with Indian interpersonal relationships, previous experience in Early Childhood or Child Development in dealing with children. CDA or Associates Degree in Early Childhood preferred. Must submit to and pass all necessary drug tests and background checks.

Bus Driver / Maintenance:

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Checotah Head Start.

Qualifications: Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must obtain an Oklahoma Bus Drivers Certificate, CDL, CPR, and First Aide Certificate. Must possess a valid drivers license and good driving record. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

Trade & Commerce

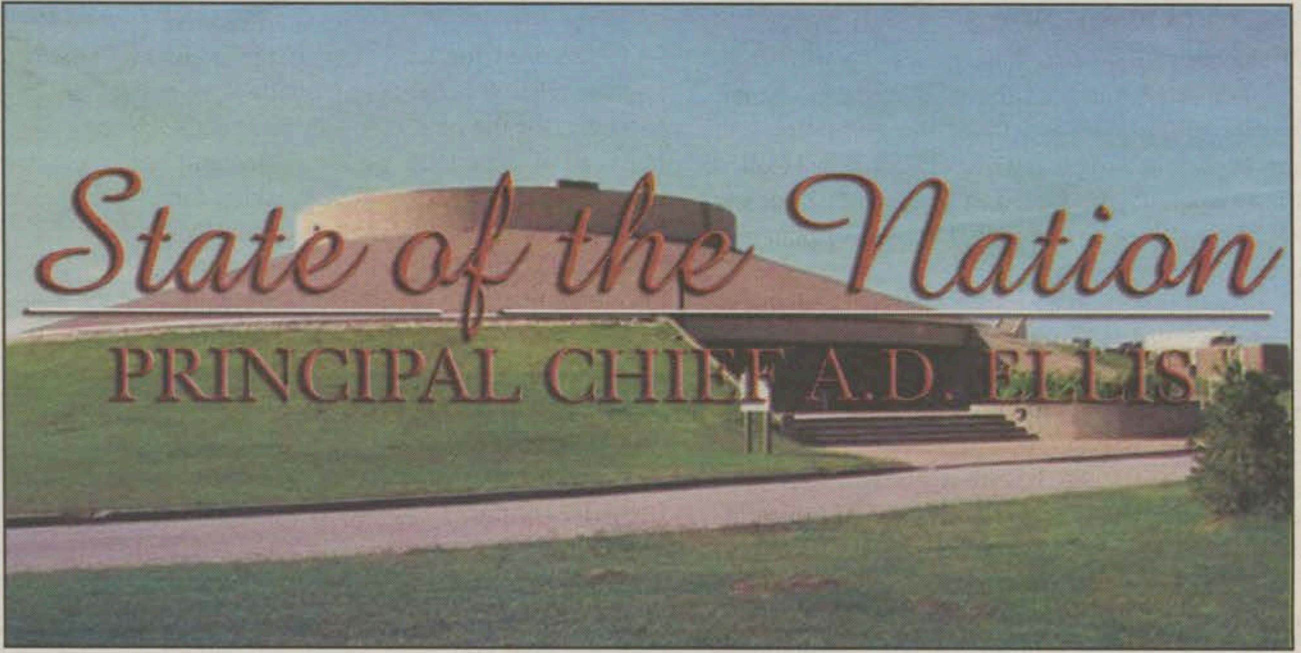
Trade and Commerce is accepting applications for the following:

Travel Plaza - Okmulgee
Travel Plaza - Muskogee
Muscogee Document Imaging
Farm Authority

For more information on employment opportunities at Trade & Commerce please contact Alexis at 918-732-7764.

These jobs have an Indian Preference.

JOB ADVERTISEMENTS: The MNN is accepting job advertisements to run in the newspaper. If you or your company would like to advertise any openings, please contact call 732-7637 for information on rates or to place your ad.



STATE OF THE NATION
January 29, 2005

I have a copy of last years State of the Nation Address that I gave a year ago this week.

The Administration had twenty projects that we announced that we were going to try to do, so far we have either completed or in the process of completing twenty of those projects. I'll go through to some of the completed projects.

- Commodity/Food Distribution, dedicated in March 2004. Opened.
- The biggest project is the Coweta Health Clinic. Should be finished late fall of this year
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation to have their own construction company. We do. Began doing $5 million renovation on Tulsa Casino, using tribal employees.
- Imaging Company. The Trade & Commerce's Muscogee Document Imaging Company moved into commodity building and is successful with all new employees.
- The tribal farm that sat idle for 12 years now has over 400 acres of alfalfa. We have new tractors, equipment and fencing. We have been successful this first year.
- New Resolution for Tribal University with Board of Regents to be completed today.
- A transportation system throughout the Creek Nation. It has been approved and we will start buying buses to transport Creeks nationwide.
- Identification time-card system was completed in three months.
- New complex face lift; landscape and beautification. That has been completed.
- A 30 feet sign on the highway to let people know we're here. It has been completed.
- The Elder/Senior Services position was filled with Jackson Barnett.
- The Gaming compact is still on hold.
- Elderly Housing Units that were under construction last year are almost filled to capacity.
- I requested the position of Housing Director to be filled within 90 days. A new housing director is in place.
- We have established a Security Guard position with a full-blood, fluent in our language to greet, assist, guide and direct our citizens.
- Established a grant writing Department for Education.

Our Creek Nation in very good shape in January 2005. We are approximately $30 million wealthier from one year ago today. One year ago, we had approximately $50 million as of this week we have over $70 million, all as a result of Gaming. Forty percent of our Gaming revenue goes into our permanent fund.

We have a Gaming compact coming up, one of the things I'm proposing this year. Of the twenty-two communities, twelve have very profitable gaming enterprises. Those communities would include; Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Glenpool, Holdenville, Koweta, Muskogee, Okemah, Okmulgee, Twin Hills and Wetumka.

Some of the communities of the twenty two have no profitable enterprises, which include Cromwell, Dewar, Dustin, Kellyville, Paden, Sapulpa, Tulsa, Weleetka, Wilson and Yardeka.

I would like to recommend taking possibly two percent of our gaming revenue be given to the communities. Have all communities come in with a budget, spread this gaming revenue among all communities small ones and large ones. Give all of our people the chance to share in this revenue through community operations. This could be paid in budget that is presented to us every month. I see so many communities that have no revenue. They have no jobs for their people they can't provide assistance, like driveways fixed. This would solve that problem.

Tulsa casino is under construction. The actual ground breaking will be in August or September, possibly sooner. A special meeting has been scheduled to expedite the date.

We purchased the Fountainhead Lodge lien. We need to have a sheriff sale to recoup our money or try to repair it. We have an engineering firm that has estimated it would take $15 million to fix it. I don't see how we could possibly do something like that. I'm going to request a second opinion from a second engineering company.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation purchased 17-acres of land across the road from our casino on Riverside Drive, the most expensive land in Tulsa, as far as commercial development.

There will be a bill coming to establish banking, high profile office buildings and five star restaurants on that site.

In the paper a couple of weeks ago, the Chickasaw Nation opened a Bank 2 in Oklahoma City. They also opened a branch in Tulsa. Sometime this year they plan to open six more branches in Tulsa. They are the number one bank to furnish loans to minorities, number two in the United States. I don't think its right to sit back and let another nation come in boundaries and take our business. We need to act.

Just two weeks ago, I was contacted by another company wanting to sell us twelve acres at 181st and Peoria, directly across the river from our casino. We haven't done any checking on that but Vision 2025 Tulsa is going to establish low water dams up and down the Arkansas River. The first will be at 91st, which will back up the water to our casino to provide a lake effect. We talked about water taxis. The west side of the river is developing quickly with the Aquarium.

One important thing we've been negotiating with the City of Okmulgee is for a new sewer line. We finally came to an agreement and we will have to appropriate funds to help the city of Okmulgee. They granted us permission to tap into and run a 12-inch sewer line from the refinery site to our omni-plex between the rodeo grounds and softball fields, across the junk yard road to our 40-acres and end up at the 200-acre pecan grove for future development. We are in the process of developing our 40-acre development.

Our Language programs, we have several out there, are very important to Indian tribes. One of the first things they look at is he language to be federally recognized. In January 2004, I vetoed a bill for a Language Institute, but it was over rode by National Council. Today not one single dollar of that $337,000 has been spent. We are taking action on that if we have to substitute a bill to utilize it. We are taking action to do that.

One important thing is the Creek Council House Museum in downtown Okmulgee. We are working to take it back, even if we have to buy it back. We need our Creek

Council House back, it is one of our biggest projects that we are after this year. We may complete it this year.

For our education, the post graduate student, there is a proposal for $500 to $1000. Education is the most important thing that we have. Our Tribal College is in operation. The Board of Regents last vacancy will be hopefully be completed today. We plan to be accredited in two years.

There is a vacancy on the National Indian College Board. We were notified that the White house is ready to consider a Muscogee Creek for the vacancy. I will be submitting my nomination next week. It takes a Presidential citation for that position.

Virginia Thomas has been president for many years of the National Advisory Council of Education. Last year, President Bush appointed Virginia Thomas (JOM Manager) and Greg Anderson (Eufaula Dormitory) to the National Council Board of Directors. In the United States, out of thirteen members nationwide, two of them are Muscogee Creek citizens. I think that's great. OSU nursing students began classes January 5, the National Council appropriated the funding for them last year.

The Cultural Preservation program is expanding and is involved in a language program. A GPS system is in place. They are applying for a National Park service grant.

Eufaula Dormitory buses students home every weekend. It's a experimental project. It has been working good for kids on weekends to spend time with their parents.

Second Chief and I, and the other four (of the Five civilized) Tribal Chiefs, will be attending Congressional Committee meetings next week in regard to issues of Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Education, Indian Health Services, Indian Roads and Reservations Programs to begin lobbying for more funding for these programs. With all five tribes, over 450,000 tribal members that we represent, we should get their attention.

We met with the MIS systems. The communities should be hooked up in March and ready to operate and see what programs can help them. They will eventually be able to watch council meetings from their community centers. A lot of surplus computers for the communities are available. If you know of any communities that need them, have them contact the tribe.

The Housing fund is $17.6 million. The Housing Authority is now under the tribe. The housing state board is in place and the new housing director has asked to do a housing plan that will spend an extra $10 million. I wouldn't been disappointed if he spent $20 million. I also told him if he needs to hire 30 people, hire them, improve, and expand.

I have a bill next month to remove the cap of $10,000.00 which has been in effect for several years, and raise the amount to $100,000.00.

Meanwhile construction companies move on to other projects. The Housing Authority needs to consider the need for authority to sign a contract if we have to rehab 8 homes at $10,000.00 each that needs to be signed the next day. Council needs to consider the need of the contract to be signed and begin work the next day, is what we will be asking for.

We have a new Health Director, Delbert Nutter. I hear he is an expert in third party collections. We need to collect a lot to improve our Health system. We need to direct our attention on the Wetumka Hospital. We've been debating for two years on whether to buy it or not? I will ask to increase funding from Dr. Grimm for our Okemah hospital.

We have a Veterans Affairs Office now that's very busy. I didn't realize the great need we had for our veterans. Ken Davis is the Veterans Affairs Officer. Every day he has another needy veteran that needs to go the VA hospital in Muskogee or Oklahoma City. I'll give you an example. We had an employee who was hurt on the job, had no income and for some reason Worker's Comp didn't assist him. He didn't know what he was going to do, but he was a veteran. Ken went and got him, took him to his office, got his information, went to VA in Muskogee, and within two weeks he was receiving benefits. Last year he had over 48 citizens receive benefits that otherwise did not know they had it coming.

In the Elders/Senior Services office, Jackson Barnett stresses the language. He went before the National Council to purchase two vans to help transport elders.

A totally new project that we have is the Re-Integration program. We have a lot of people who have been incarcerated with no place to go and no one to assist them. Our Second Chief Alfred Berryhill is heading up that program. It is in the start up administration. I've changed the policy to allow felons to apply at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I had young a man come to me with a college degree, a full-blood Creek from Okemah. He said he had done some bad things when he was younger, that was twenty years ago. He said he has paid his debt to society, worked his way through college, and he can't even get a job with his own tribe. We are correcting that so that some of our people can come back, as long as it was just drugs or alcohol related.

We are creating a Tourism and Recreation department. We have plans to build a multipurpose building at the omni plex with a junior college type basketball gym and a fitness center, maybe next year an Olympic size pool.

Our annual Rodeo and Festival needs to be promoted. Tourism and Recreation will control all of this and make this a full time business. I'm creating a new program for the festival this year and in the process of forming a committee. Most all tribes honor their elder and famous people in their tribe. I thought it was time we did. I'm creating the Muscogee Nation Living Legends ceremony. Cherokees and other tribes call theirs National Treasures. We've got a lot of people that have dedicated their lives working for the tribe and the Nation. It is time we recognize these individuals before they pass on.

Head Start will have a new building just east of the Mound building. Office of the Attorney General and Lighthorse's new building will be out there in that area as well. We need an investigator in the office of Public Gaming. Our gaming will be growing and we need the staff.

Our Industrial Park is now under construction. With the Transit System you will be seeing new buses in a couple of months. They will be transporting citizens around the Creek Nation. We'll be around go to Holdenville, Bristow, Eufaula, and Muskogee, and all points in between and come back to the complex. One day we will have a bus that connects to a Tulsa route so that those who work in Tulsa can connect at that point.

Henryetta is creating a new museum one mile south of I-40, a coal miners museum I understand. I don't know how Senator Shurden got permission from Oklahoma Transportation to put in an interchange. We've been offered acres of land and to get an interchange if we build a road for them. That is in the works.

Elderly nutrition will be in the new building on March 1. If you get a chance, go by and look at it. It has an examination room for the CHR staff.

Our Nation does have an impact in this area. Our MCN's annual payroll is $30 million in this area. Our people pay a lot of taxes. Our employees have paid $2.7 million in Federal taxes, $1.2 million in Oklahoma state taxes, $2.7 million in Social Security, and $701,000 in Medicare. We now have 2,426 tribal employees

I just found out last night another project for this year. Our Lighthorse vehicles are filling up with gas at the Okmulgee Kum & Go. A certain officer said he fills up at least three times a week. That's $90 to $100 per week that they are spending on fuel. That's $81,000 per year that we are not spending at our travel plaza, for all we know this Kum & Go may be a One Nation company. We have over 300 vehicles in Muscogee (Creek) Nation and we all need to use our own businesses.

We have some Tobacco compacts coming up. I spent Wednesday with Montie Deer, Mr. Alexander and others, going over the tobacco compact in Oklahoma City. They sent us a new compact yesterday and we were not satisfied. It is not acceptable at all. They are not giving us the same deal as the Cherokees and Osages. They are not treating us on the same level, it is not acceptable to us at all. Whatever we need to do to be treated fairly we will do. If we have to file an injunction, we will, in order to get the same treatment as the other tribes. We are going to insist that we be treated as well as the other tribes are.

I appreciate everyone being here and this opportunity to address the citizens and the Council. Mvto!

Letters

continued from page 2

porting us while our son Lance was sick. He is the son of Tim and Joyce Thompson of Yardeka.

We would like to thank the Fish Pond Members and friends for donations. Also Alice Mack and Family.

Mvto,

Thompson and Dee family, Yardeka

Church appreciates donation

Editor:

Creek Chapel Methodist Church would like to thank the National Council for the $250 donation for Christmas.

Leah Jack, Hanna
Sunday School Superintendent

Second

continued from page 3

"Montezuma reigned then in Mexico; seeing that it was impossible to arrest the progress of the Spaniards. He called to his assistance the people which were neighbors to his states. The nation of the Moskoquis, known now under the name of Creeks, who formed a separate republic in the northwestern part of Mexico, and who had numerous warriors, offered him assistance, formidable for any enemy other than a disciplined army, such as that of the Spaniards commanded by Fernan-Cortez."

"The courage of this warlike people resulted, then, only in its more prompt destruction, and was not able to save Montezuma, who lost his life and his empire, which was almost entirely depopulated. After the death of Montezuma an many other chiefs, the Moskoquis, considerably weakened by this terrible war, which they were no longer in a condition to maintain, determined to abandon a country which offered them in exchange for their past happiness only the most terrible slavery, to search for one which would secure them the abundance and peace of which the Spaniards had just deprived them."

"They directed their march toward the north, and ascended in fifteen days as far as the source of Red River, that is to say a distance of about a hundred leagues. This river throws its waters into the northern part of America, across immense prairies, a fact which fixed their determination to follow its course. They traveled therefore eight days in this direction through a plain brilliant with the most beautiful flowers, and covered with wild animals, which offered them all the resources necessary for their existence. This country would have attracted them to settle in it for all time on account of its richness in every respect; but, fearing still for their safety, in country which did not offer them any natural defense, they continued their journey. In the different excursions which they mad along this river, they did not discover any other, not even a stream joining it; but they often found lakes and ponds, many of which had salt water; these were generally covered with aquatic birds of all kinds, notably such are met along the shore of the ocean. The prairies were alive with partridges, hares, rabbits, turkeys and other animals. There are such great quantities of this sort of game in these countries, that, when it is pursued from different points at the same time, and is forced to flee, the air is obscured and the land covered with it."

"After having traveled thus for many days they found some groves where they made a halt. The young warriors were sent in different directions by the old men to examine the face of the country. At the end of a month they returned announcing that they had discovered a forest on the edges of which, and at the same time along Red River, were fine subterranean dwellings. The entire nation set out; when they arrived near these caves, they discovered that they had been dug by bison, or wild oxen, and other animals who inhabited them because the earth there was a little salty."

"The Moskoquis found in this country the peace and quiet which they needed in order to repair the considerable losses which they had suffered in the Mexican wars. The colony having brought along a little corn which was left to it, it was planted immediately in order to assure them a means of subsistence. As they lacked the necessary utensils with which to make a settlement they made use of sharp stones, instead of axes, to cut and sharpen sticks of wood which they afterward hardened in the fire and used in cultivating the ground."

"When the Moskoquis had thus performed the first labors connected with their new settlement, they marked out a field, as large as was necessary for the common needs of the colony, and they surrounded it with old pieces of wood and stakes planted in the earth, in order to guard against the incursions of bison and other wild animals, which are very fond of corn. They then allotted to the families the ground contained in this enclosure, and sowed it for their sustenance. The young people of both sexes worked the ground together while the old men smoked their pipes. In this manner they lived for many years, enjoying perfect tranquility, living by hunting and fishing, and on the products of their land, and regretting little their separation from the country where they had suffered so much. They would no doubt have remained there permanently if the unhappy fortune which seemed to pursue them had not compelled them to undertake a second migration."

"They were discovered by the Albamos or Alibamons, who killed many of their people. Then the old men, the natural chiefs of the nation, called together the young warriors, and sent them on the trail of the murderers, but without success, because there was no unity in their operations, and they lacked a common chief; they then felt the necessity of selecting one. The old men of the nation assembled and chose the one among them who had rendered the greatest services to the fatherland, and they named him their Tastanegy or grand war chief . . . ."

"The Moskoquis are very warlike and are not cast down by defeat; the day after an unsuccessful battle, they march to meet the enemy as courageously as before. It was after this arrangement that they resolved to continue their course toward the northwest. After having marched in this direction for some time, and crossed immense plains, they stopped in a little forest on the banks of the Missouri. TO BE CONTINUED.

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES
MUSCOGEE CONFEDERACY
1000's OF YEARS AGO

By: Patrick E. Moore

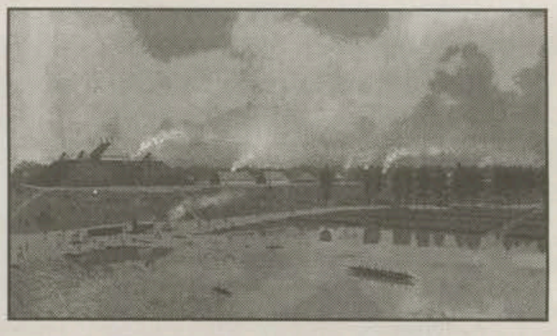
1000's of years ago Great Pyramids were the centerpieces of many Muscogee Confederacy towns in southeastern North America. These towns were centers of commerce, culture and religion, involving visitors and traders from as far away as the Yucatan Peninsula in Central America and possibly even the Amazon Basin in South America.

Pyramid towns were located near rivers and streams, sometimes a town's pyramids covered as large an area as 20 acres and many pyramids were considerably larger in base and height than the Great Pyramids of Egypt. Some of these ancient towns covered over 300 acres.

4,000 BC Native Americans in the southeastern areas of North America began to concentrate in towns around these pyramids and many towns grew to a population of in excess of 10,000 persons. These Great Pyramid Towns were the largest and richest culture centers north of Central and South America and far exceeded any European settlements in the development of their local and national governments, culture and society.

Muscogee Confederacy trade area extended from the Great Lakes in the north to the Gulf of Mexico, Central America and South America in the south, the Great Plains in the west and the Atlantic seaboard in the east. Rivers and streams that cris-crossed the landscape provided for quick and easy transportation and provided valuable access to both the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico. On any given day literally hundreds of canoes would be in the process of coming and going loaded with trade goods. The only activity to take precedent over commerce would be a scheduled festival, religious ceremony or funeral.

Traders or visitors approaching a pyramid town would first observe smoke from fires residents tended, this smoke helped drive off mosquitoes, the traveler would then see thousands of thatch roofed houses and hear the sounds and commotion of the town. Then they would observe farmers in the fields, craftsmen and fishermen at their tasks and finally the Great Pyramid. The Great Pyramid was often surrounded by several smaller pyramids topped with buildings. The smaller pyramids were probably used as temples for worship and homes for the ruling class. Access to these temples was forbidden to all but the priests, who were in charge of the sacred fires and death was the punishment for allowing a fire to go out.

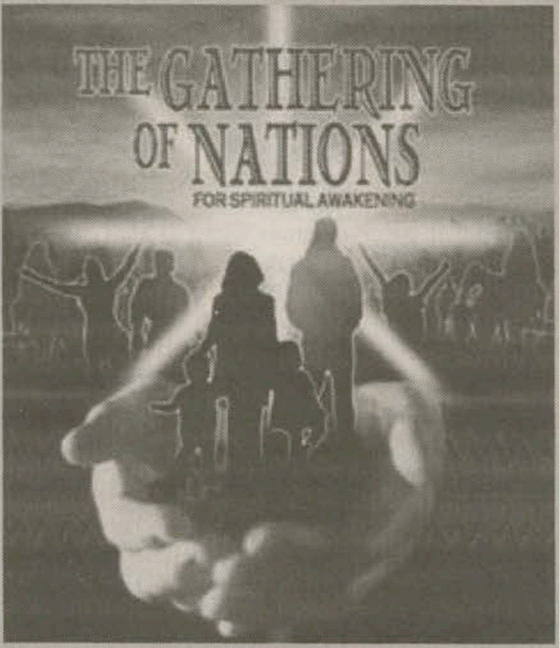


Pyramid towns had a central plaza several acres in size, contained a playing field or court used for many native games such as chunky, stickball and foot racing. Each spring and fall the central plaza would be the scene of athletic contests, dancing and religious events. Numerous ceremonies and festivals were conducted in and around this plaza during the

please see **MOORE**..., page 23

Oklahoma Indian Evangelism Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — The theme is "The Gathering of Nations for Spiritual Awakening". The purpose of the "Gathering" is Native American believers seeking God. For many years Indian Christians have sought revival and Spiritual Awakening. All Christian men and women who have a desire to see Spiritual Awakening among the Native Nations are invited to come and be a part of this "Once-in-a-life-time-experience".



The goal is to have 100 churches in simultaneous revival on March 6 thru 9. The leaders for simultaneous revivals will be the Pastors, Evangelists and Musicians that attend the Gathering event. Each participating church will make its revival arrangements.

The conference workshops include: Developing Pastoral Skills; Native Women in Ministry; Leading Native American Youth; Understanding Children; Spiritual Awakening and the Church; Partnering with Native American Ministries; Understanding Native Americans; New Methods in Reaching Native Americans; and Native American Religion.

The day conference speakers include: Jimmy Anderson; Russell Begaye; Mark Custalow; Jerry Wortman; and Jonathan Wilson.

The conferences will be held on March 3rd through March 4th. Conferences will be from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. They are to be held at Glorieta Baptist Church. The church is located at 7308 South Western in Oklahoma City and the phone number is (405) 632-3365.

Dr. Henry Blackaby, author of "Experiencing God", will be speaking nightly on March 2 through March 4 at Southern Hills Baptist Church from 6:30 p.m to 9 p.m. The Conference Worship Leader will be Ted Burden of Branson, Missouri.

Dr. Henry Blackaby and Dr. Greg Frizzell will be speaking at Southern Hills Baptist Church on March 5 from 9 a.m. to noon. The church is located at 8601 S. Pennsylvania in Oklahoma City.

You may contact Dr. Emerson Falls at Emersonfalls@hotmail.com or Carla Parnarcher at cparn4him@yahoo.com for more information. There is also information about the conference and an on-line preregistration form on the Oklahoma Indian Baptist site at http://www.okindiansbc.org.

Church Events

Men's Ministry Rally

MUSKOGEE — A Men's Ministry Rally will be held at Butler Creek Indian Baptist Church on February 27 at 6:30 p.m.

"Live out Loud" Conference 2005

SHAWNEE — "Live out Loud" is the Native American Youth & Young Adult Conference that will be held March 11 thru 12 at the Oklahoma Baptist University. The University is located at 500 West University. All Youth Groups are welcome (in state and out of state).

The goal of the conference is to have 300 plus youth and young adults attend. The keynote speaker will be Brother Vern Charette of Columbus, Mississippi. The praise & worship team consists of Bros. Gabriel and Michael Ball with Courtney See of McLoud.

Beginning on March 11, a joint worship service will start at 7 p.m. On March 12, the schedule begins with the joint general session at 8:30 a.m.; breakout sessions from 9 a.m until 10:45 a.m.; joint worship service will follow at 11 a.m; lunch at noon; recreation time will be from 2 until 4:30 p.m; burger and hot dog cookout at 5 p.m; and with joint worship service at 7 p.m.

Register at the door for $7. You can mail your attendee list with check or money order payable to: First Indian Moore, 2610 S. Broadway, Moore OK, 73160.

For more information on the conference and hotels in the area: contact Delena Deer at (405) 816-8313 or e-mail at deere_3848@yahoo.com; Willie or Sue Fish at (405) 321-4898 or e-mail at pashofa@sbcglobal.net; or Donna Bear at (405) 912-5394.

Youth Revival

CALVIN — A Youth Revival will be held at Tookparfka Baptist Church on March 16-18 beginning at 7 p.m.

The revival will include congregational singing, devotions held by youth groups from local churches, great fellowship afterwards and most of all God's message from Reverend Edward Bear, Pastor of the First Indian Church in Holdenville.

For more information contact Pastor Rev. Joe W. Bruner at 405-379-7490 or Charlie Franks at 405-379-5546.

Family Gathering

OKEMAH — High Spring Baptist Church is having a Church Family Gathering on "Easter Weekend", March 25 thru 27, and are inviting past and present members, or descendents to come and join us during this time.

For more information you may contact Kathy Hamilton at (918) 756-2561, Christine Roberts at (918) 623-2833 or Mary Lee Severs Lee at (918) 623-4639.

Bible Study Material available online

In the late 1980's, the Baptist Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention contracted with Southern Baptist Native American leaders to write and edit a Native American Bible Study cirriculum for adults. The late Helen Begaye was chosen to edit and oversee this project. God had uniquely gifted Helen for this task, and the result was six years of Bible study material written by Native American writers, and edited by Helen. The curriculum was published by the Sunday School Board from 1988 until 1993 when it was discontinued. The material was originally published as dated literature; that is, a specific lesson for a specific date.

As a result of recent agreements between LifeWay Christian Resources and the North American Mission Board, they have been given electronic access to the priceless resource that has been made available at no charge to Native congregations. These lessons are now available for you to view online and to print for use in your church setting. The lessons may even be copied and used as handouts. Please note, however, that this material is still under copyright and may not be used for resale.

The lessons will be posted one quarter at a time and will maintain the maximum number of lessons permissible by the web host. The material will be grouped into units that have a common theme. Unit descriptions will be provided and the corresponding lessons will be listed under each unit. Although the lessons have dates that correspond to them, do not feel limited to use the lesson only on or near the date. The dates correspond only to the original publication period. Feel free to use the material as it fits your schedule.

You will find that the lessons include both illustrations and applications that are written uniquely from a Native perspective. You will also find that the lessons are biblically sound. Scripture portions are printed within the lessons making it easier for students to participate and follow along. The translations used at the time of publishing were the King James Version and the Revised Standard Version. Please feel free to use other translations if you prefer.

It is North American Mission Board (NAMB) Ministries prayer that this material be used to aid Native churches toward greater health and reproduction. It is also the prayer that the material could be used to facilitate Native church planting movements that would penetrate every Native setting in North America.

There are 22 units and 104 lessons are available on the NAMB ministries website. The downloadable Native Bible Study & Sunday School Materials are available in PDF format at: www.nambnativeministries.org/Study/biblestudy.html.

COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	11,987.00	0.00	11,208.00	779.00
GAMING REVOLVING	58,327.00	0.00	26,932.00	31,395.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	10,424.00	0.00	9,130.00	1,294.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION	5,900.00	0.00	3,732.00	2,168.00
LIGHTHORSE PROGRAM INCOME	0.00	0.00	(60.00)	60.00
TOTAL PROGRAM INCOME:	**1,071,290.00**	**55.00**	**465,813.00**	**605,422.00**
DEPT OF INTERIOR:				
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	8,132,104.00	135,555.00	6,050,609.00	1,945,940.00
DOI-ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP	7,576.00	0.00	0.00	7,576.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	126,721.00	0.00	126,721.00	0.00
EUFAULA DORM '01	168,882.00	0.00	120,820.00	48,062.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV. '01	25,520.00	0.00	25,520.00	0.00
LAMAR ROAD	220.00	0.00	187.00	33.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH ROAD	76,910.00	0.00	12,612.00	64,298.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	57,873.00	20,066.00	6,158.00	31,649.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	109,126.00	0.00	80,117.00	29,009.00
PORTER ROAD	117,660.00	0.00	104,967.00	12,693.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	44,441.00	0.00	26,120.00	18,321.00
SALEM ROAD	91,718.00	2,451.00	12,866.00	76,401.00
SKELLY/HASKELL ROAD	601,548.00	23,387.00	577,613.00	548.00
METHODIST CHURCH ROAD	2,621.00	0.00	0.00	2,621.00
HECTORVILLE ROAD	1,283,253.00	98,952.00	30,151.00	1,154,150.00
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	194,153.00	192,277.00	1,621.00	255.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '02	11,584.00	0.00	11,584.00	0.00
EUFAULA DORM '02	665,518.00	0.00	399,861.00	265,657.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '03	9,499.00	0.00	3,005.00	6,494.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '03	435,487.00	0.00	425,349.00	10,138.00
EUFAULA DORM '03	1,395,255.00	500.00	677,890.00	716,865.00
OAKDALE SCHOOL BLDG	665.00	0.00	665.00	0.00
McINTOSH FENCING	577.00	0.00	0.00	577.00
CALVIN NORTH ROAD	1,729,221.00	1,443,473.00	275,763.00	9,985.00
STIDHAM ROAD	443,500.00	0.00	442,306.00	1,194.00
ARBEKA ROAD	1,595,312.00	1,157,483.00	427,169.00	10,660.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '04	13,440.00	4,020.00	1,028.00	8,392.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '04	958,462.00	3,315.00	511,381.00	443,766.00
EUFAULA DROM '04	748,100.00	0.00	0.00	748,100.00
TITLE PLANT	30,000.00	0.00	11,114.00	18,886.00
AID TO TRIBAL GOVERNMENT	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	2,996,619.00	247,417.00	339,380.00	2,409,822.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	25,184.00	0.00	5,184.00	20,000.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	41,404.00	0.00	2,100.00	39,304.00
TOTAL DEPT OF INTERIOR:	**22,170,153.00**	**3,328,896.00**	**10,709,861.00**	**8,131,396.00**
DEPT OF JUSTICE:				
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE	49,062.00	0.00	45,336.00	3,726.00
DRUG COURT	45,862.00	0.00	32,466.00	13,396.00
TRIBAL RESOUCES COPS	87,239.00	0.00	86,712.00	527.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	85,513.00	0.00	22,218.00	63,295.00
TOTAL DEPT OF JUSTICE:	**267,676.00**	**0.00**	**186,732.00**	**80,944.00**
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:				
GAP	110,000.00	0.00	31,775.00	78,225.00
TOTAL EPA:	**110,000.00**	**0.00**	**31,775.00**	**78,225.00**
ENTERPRISE FUND:				
MUSKOGEE OFFICE BLDG	171,600.00	0.00	161,585.00	10,015.00
BIA BLDG RESERVE	9,200.00	0.00	1,880.00	7,320.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOP/LAND	1,603,400.00	15.00	387,257.00	1,216,128.00
COWETA CLINIC	2,041,431.00	1,341,831.00	399,600.00	300,000.00
IHS OFFICE BUILDING	22,318.00	0.00	15,287.00	7,031.00
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROGRAM	9,483.00	0.00	16,704.00	(7,221.00)
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	276,289.00	0.00	201,751.00	74,538.00
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND:	**4,133,721.00**	**1,341,846.00**	**1,184,064.00**	**1,607,811.00**
TRUST & AGENCY FUND:				
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	0.00	0.00	12,226.00	(12,226.00)
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL TRUST & AGENCY FUND:	**0.00**	**0.00**	**12,226.00**	**(12,226.00)**
INTERNAL SERVICE:				
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	812,324.00	4,013.00	470,140.00	338,171.00
TRIBAL-REAL PROP & FAC.	1,422,400.00	0.00	1,163,993.00	258,407.00
TRIBAL-PROPERTY & SUPPLY	89,910.00	0.00	105,120.00	(15,210.00)
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	234,523.00	5,336.00	130,241.00	98,946.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	0.00	0.00	3,009,869.00	(3,009,869.00)
TOTAL INTERNAL SERVICE FUND:	**2,559,157.00**	**9,349.00**	**4,879,363.00**	**(2,329,555.00)**
SCHOLARHIPS:				
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	4,000.00	0.00	5,336.00	(1,336.00)
TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND:	**4,000.00**	**0.00**	**5,336.00**	**(1,336.00)**
TOTALS	**119,194,116.00**	**5,128,768.00**	**58,108,617.00**	**55,956,731.00**

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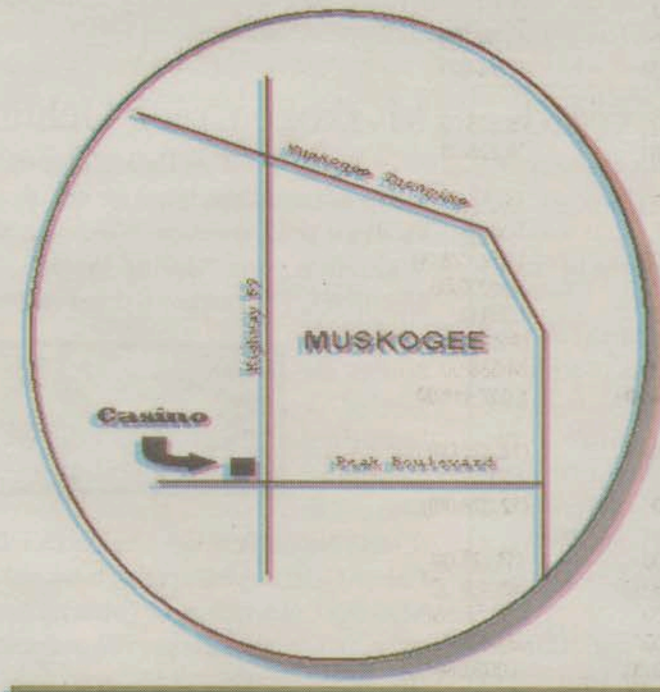
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Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise offers opportunity to young Muscogee citizens

OKMULGEE – Sandy Lee, 19 and Chase Williams, 20 are two reasons why Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise was created.

"An important part of our charter is to create career opportunities for our Tribal citizens," said Michael Nalley, Director of MNBE. "Sandy and Chase have both been great hires for our company." Both young men are technicians in the Fire & Security group at MNBE. "Sandy came to my office about six or seven times looking for a job," said Nalley. "After his last trip to my office I knew I had to find a place for him in our organization." "Sandy had a lot of drive, he just needed the opportunity."

After graduating from Dewar High School Sandy attended Green Country Vo-Tech and received his certification in the A+ Hardware program. Sandy started with MNBE on February 2, 2004. Chase was working at the Creek Nation Tax Commission, when BJ Waggnor, Project Manager, Fire & Security recommended hiring him as a technician.

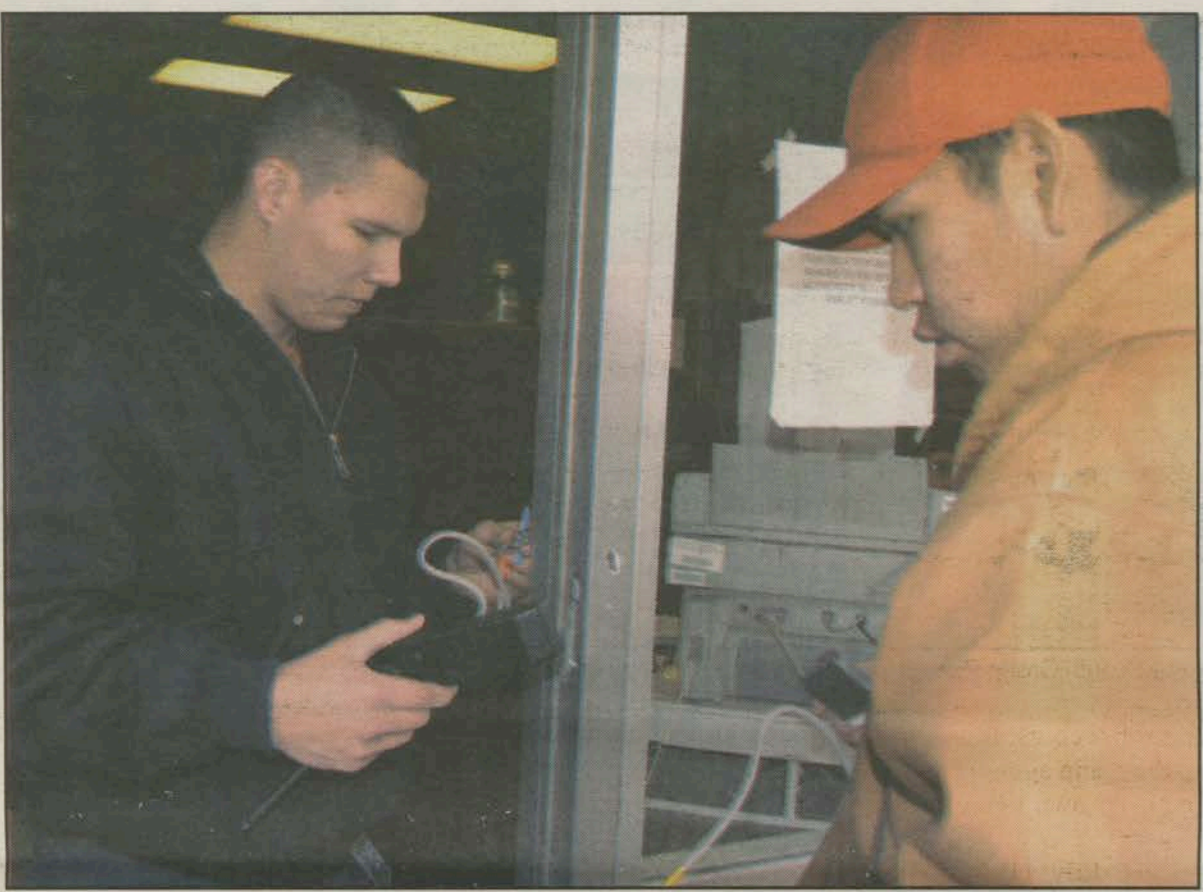
Chase, a graduate of Henryetta High School, started working for MNBE on February 18, 2004. Besides working for MNBE Chase is a member of the Oklahoma Army National Guard. "Chase brings a level of discipline and maturity that a lot of people his age do not possess," said Pritchard. "I believe his involvement with the Oklahoma Army National Guard has enhanced those qualities in him." In February, Chase will be attending a Platoon Leadership School at Ft. Sill, OK.

According to John Pritchard, Manager, Technology Services, "Chase and Sandy have been fun to watch because you have an opportunity to take people who may not have the exact skill sets you need but they have the desire and work ethic to want to learn and to be the best at what they do."

MNBE Technology Services Division is required to be certified in various software and hardware which requires training.

In February both men will be attending DVTEL Training in New Jersey and in March Chase will be attending Softwarehouse Training in Florida. "Chase and Sandy have a bright future at MNBE," said Nalley. "How far they go is up to them." Chase is the son of James Williams of Henryetta and Mary Howard of Okmulgee. His grandmother is Evelyn Quinton of Dewar.

Sandy is the son of Janet Lee of Henryetta and Sidney Lee of the Ryal Community. His grandmother is Lorene Sumka.



MNBE Fire & Security technicians Chase Williams and Sandy Lee preparing to install card access readers for Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees tracking system for Creek Nation Complex.

Trade and Commerce provides assistance to hearing impaired

OKMULGEE — A free CapTel phone is available to you. Ideal for people with some degree of hearing loss, the Caption Telephone (CapTel) works like any other telephone with one important addition: It displays every word the caller says throughout the conversation. CapTel phone users can listen to the caller, and can also read written captions in the CapTel's bright display window.

These phones are free from Sprint and the application process is simple. Your caption telephone still works like a regular voice phone too, so it's easy for everyone to use.

For more information and applications, contact Alexis Crosley at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade and Commerce office at (918) 732-7764.

Processing of these free phone applications is a public service of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority and is free and open to all enrolled members of a Federally recognized tribe with any amount of hearing loss.

For more information on Federal CapTel or CapTel in your state, visit www.captionedtelephone.com/availability.phtml or call CapTel at 1(888)269-7477 to order your phone.

Mvskoke Creek Uehunecv

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade and Commerce Department are now providing bottled water. Trade and Commerce Warehouse Manager, Eastman Whitlow reports "Spring Water - Mvskoke Creek UEHUNECV" Company is doing very well.

These bottles are labeled in blue and feature both the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and the Second Chief Alfred Berryhill's photographs and is properly labeled Mvskoke Creek Uehunecv (water). The water comes in 12 oz or 20 oz bottles, a case of 12 oz bottles cost $9.00 and a case of 20 oz bottles cost 13.20 per case. This water is available for purchase through the Trade and Commerce Department at 1010 East Eufaula Street. For more information about this water please call Trade and Commerce at 732-7765.

MVSKOKE CREEK
UEHUNECV

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention 5th Annual Youth Camp

WELLING — Swimming, hiking, running, jumping, basketball, mushball, volleyball, tennis and miniature golf are a few of the fun activities at Camp Cvfeknetv this year! The youth will also learn about the traditions of the Muscogee people and gain leadership skills that they can carry with them throughout their adult life. Commercial tobacco vs. traditional tobacco will also be on the camp agenda. The youth will focus on making their own video this year.

Camp Cvfeknetv 2003 Youth Group Pictures taken at Camp Christian in Chouteau, Oklahoma

Camp Cvfeknetv dates are July 11-15, 2005. Youth who are 12 to 18 years of age will be able to attend this camp with no admission fees! Please have your youth register early, space is limited.

"This is our fifth year to provide a camp for the young people of our communities. We began with just an overnight camp, this year we will have the youth from Monday to Friday. The theme of the camp has been Developing Health Traditional Life-styles. We take a look at the way our ancestors lived, worked, and played, without the threat of nicotine addiction and the health effects we see from using manufactured tobacco products. The young people at the camp have an opportunity to learn some real life skills to help them resist peer pressure to smoke as well as a sense of well-being knowing our elders still use tobacco in a sacred and traditional way. This non-recreational way of using tobacco is explored and the youth can experience hands on organic tobacco growing from a real expert. In this way we hope our youth learn the respect for a sacred plant and a respect for their bodies.

Pictured above is Jacque Maybe, Melanie Edwards, and Victoria Mills.

To register your child for Camp Cvfeknetv or for more information please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program at (918)-756-6231.

Diabetes Training Held for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employees

OKMULGEE—The MCN Diabetes Program Staff and Sherry Wofford, a nurse with DaVita Dialysis Center presented "Diabetes in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation" in the Mound Building, January 18. The participants had fun competing in the "MCN Diabetes Challenge Bowl" an electronic Jeopardy game, at the end of the program.

Jennings named Caregiver Program Coordinator

OKMULGEE — The Division of Health of Administration would like to welcome Teresa Jennings. She is the new Native American Caregiver Support Program Coordinator. The Caregiver Support Program was introduced by the Elderly Nutrition Program which has been in place for the past two years. Teresa enjoys working for the Health Division and helping the elderly citizens. To know more about the Caregiver Support Program contact Teresa Jennings at 918-758-2727, Ext. 260

Jennings

Doctor's Note

"February is American Heart Month"

A blockage in the heart's arteries may reduce or completely cut off the blood supply to a portion of the heart. This can cause a blood clot to form and totally stop blood flow in a coronary artery, resulting in a heart attack (also called an acute myocardial infarction or MI).

Irreversible injury to the heart muscle usually occurs if medical help is not received promptly. Unfortunately, it is common for people to dismiss heart attack symptoms.

The American Heart Association and other medical experts say the body likely will send one or more of these warning signals of a heart attack:

- Uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of the chest lasting more than a few minutes.
- Pain spreading to the shoulders, neck or arms. The pain may be mild to intense. It may feel like pressure, tightness, burning, or heavy weight. It may be located in the chest, upper abdomen, neck, jaw, or inside the arms or shoulders.
- Chest discomfort with light-headedness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath.
- Anxiety, nervousness and/or cold, sweaty skin.
- Paleness or pallor.
- Increased or irregular heart rate.
- Feeling of impending doom.

Not all of these signs occur in every attack. Sometimes they go away and return. If some occur, get help fast. IF YOU NOTICE ONE OR MORE OF THESE SIGNS IN YOURSELF OR OTHERS, DON'T WAIT. CALL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (9-1-1) RIGHT AWAY! In the event of cardiopulmonary arrest (no breathing or pulse), call 9-1-1 and begin cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) immediately.

The actual diagnosis of a heart attack must be made by a doctor who has studied the results of several tests.

The doctor may:

- Review the patient's complete medical history.
- Give a physical examination.
- Use an electrocardiogram (or EKG) to discover any abnormalities caused by damage to the heart.
- Use a blood test to detect abnormal levels of certain enzymes in the bloodstream.

Spotlight

"So many of the artists today didn't get to experience what it was really like to be around the Stompdances and Indian Churches of a long time ago," said Narcomey.

Creek artist gives back to Sequoyah High School

by Gerald Wofford

We have all heard the term, starving artist, which basically means an artist who is trying to make ends meet and may not be doing so well in his chosen profession.

Jackson Narcomey doesn't fit the bill of the above mentioned term, but quite the contrary, Narcomey is an artist who works hard at his craft and makes it a point to give back.

CREEK
SEQUOYAH
INDIAN SCHOOL

Creek Artist Jackson Narcomey

Narcomey is an artist who revels in different forms of creations. From watercolor paintings, dabbing in oil portraits and even in bronze sculptures, the Muscogee (Creek) artist is right at home with any style.

Narcomey is also known for his screen printing, using a lot of his work in drawings as the central point for creations on T-shirt designs. Narcomey even sells some of his work in the gift shop that is located in the Creek Nation Capital Complex. The store is operated by the Creek Elders of the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. Narcomey's shirts can be found in the gift shop with unique prints from the traditional stickball player to more humorous signs like FBI, Wild Onions, or Got Sofke?

One of Narcomey's work entitled, Proud Warrior, presents a young Native American man who is battle tested and ready. This creation, along with Stickball Player, was especially created to honor Sequoyah High School, Narcomey's Alma Mater. Narcomey not only made the prints to honor his favorite school, but also made a way for the school to have an educational foundation. Narcomey donated the first printing of these shirts to Sequoyah as a scholarship fund-raiser. Valued at $1,000 each, the money raised will send a deserving Sequoyah student to college.

He wasn't sure how the offering would be accepted at first, how the general public would react to such an idea. Certainly other artists who are alumni of the school have given their works, time, or talent to the school as a form of offering. But each artist is different, and looks upon his giving his work as something totally from his heart, and so it was with Narcomey. He knew in his heart it was the right thing. "I always wanted to give something to the school that taught me a lot," says Narcomey.

Narcomey was already an artist in his soul when he first arrived at the Tahlequah campus, having began drawing in the first grade. He seriously began studying at the all-Indian school. "Sequoyah and all the teachers there certainly helped me a lot," admits Narcomey, "I'm glad I took the courses that I did."

He remembers the school as being mainly geared toward Vo-Tech opportunities back in his day. "Sequoyah really prepared you for some type of training or trade when I was going to school there," remembers Narcomey. "Half the day you spent in class and the other half of the day you spent in some type of Vo-tech training." Narcomey also credits Sequoyah Art Instructor Rolley White as being very instrumental in helping him at that time. After school while in his 20's, Narcomey knew he really wanted to do this for the rest of his life.

He seen how much the school has changed since he was a student there, but likes how Sequoyah has evolved and transformed itself since then. He also sees how much Native American artist, the younger generation specifically, interprets art today. "There is definitely a new style today," says Narcomey when comparing older Indian art to the art of modern times. "The new style of today presents art work in today's modern world. It really displays the two worlds that each of us has to live in. The Indian and the non."

Narcomey is from the old school way of thinking and says he will always prefer the more established style. He says is glad that he grew up in the older era, and feels that many younger artists today missed out on a very special time.

"So many of the artists today didn't get to experience what it was really like to be around the Stompdances and the Indian Churches of along time ago," said Narcomey. "You still get that feeling from the old style. Often you don't get that feeling from the newer style."

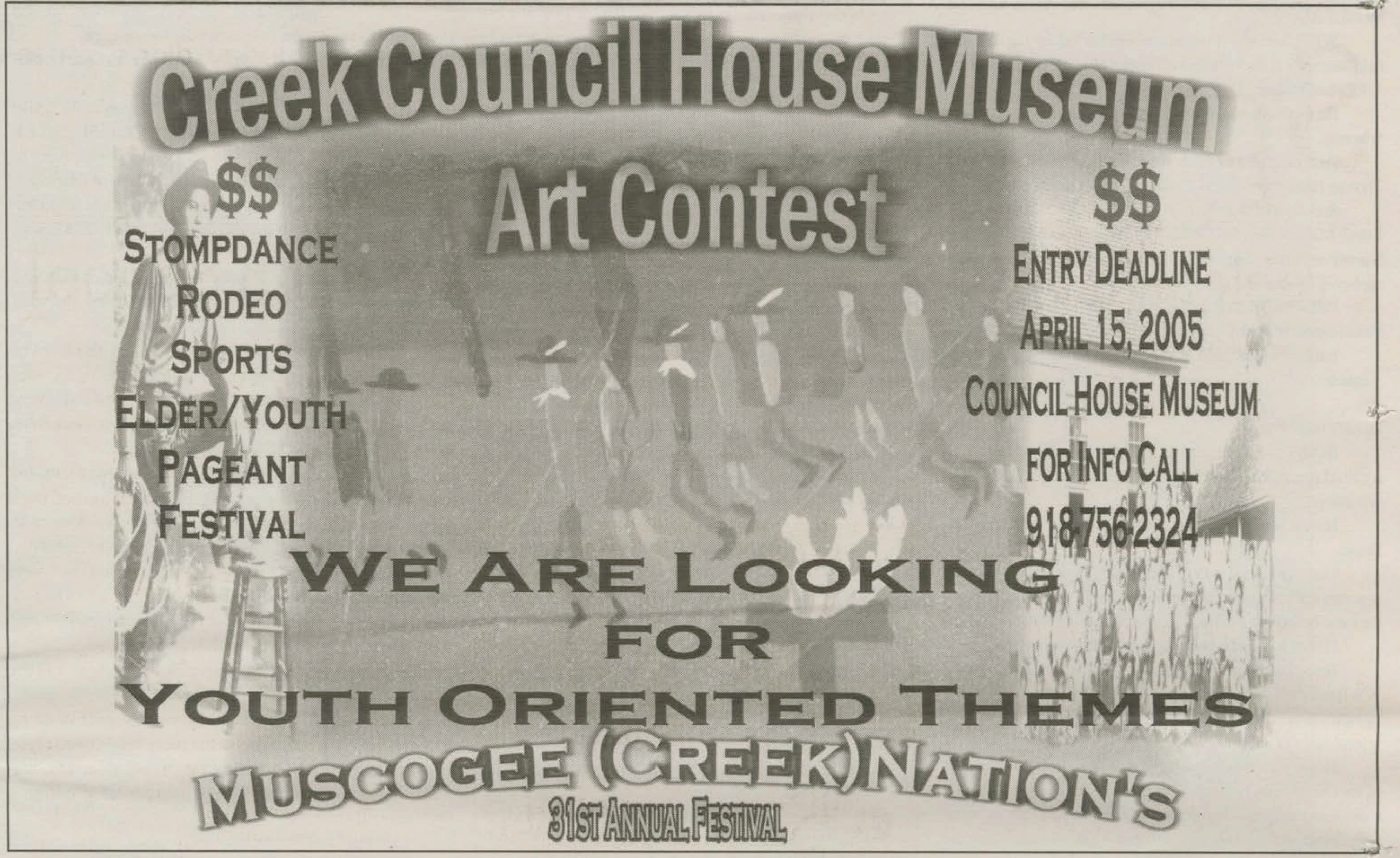
Artists see time and how it changes things, people, and the world. The old style of Indian artists are no longer here. "Artists are so different today," said Narcomey when touching on the subject of modern Indian artists. "Their work today doesn't always show the way that Indian people and life was like a long time ago. Maybe because a lot of them didn't live by going to the Stomp dances or the Sunday church meetings. A lot of it now is just a memory."

Narcomey is reminiscent about who he calls the great masters of Indian art, artists such as Acee Blue Eagle, Solomon McCombs, and Woody Crumbo.

Narcomey tells that his artwork derives from what he remembers seeing as a young boy. "I remember when all the Indian people would get together and I like to bring that across in my work."

Narcomey's work has been appreciated by the non-Indian world as well. He has received awards from for his work by entering contests at Philbrook Museum, the Fall Art Market in Okmulgee and the Red Earth Art Contest in Oklahoma City.

For more information about the t-shirts for the scholarship, call (918) 680-3252.



Creek Council House Museum

Art Contest

$$

Stompdance
Rodeo
Sports
Elder/Youth
Pageant
Festival

$$

Entry Deadline
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For Info Call
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Youth Oriented Themes

Muscogee (Creek) Nation's
31st Annual Festival

Harjo nominated for music awards

FLORIDA — Muscogee (Creek) singer and song writer Joy Harjo was recently nominated in three categories at the Native American Music Awards.

The critically acclaimed poet and author of *The Woman Who Fell From The Sky* and *The Good Luck Cat,* was nominated in the following categories: best blues/ jazz album; best female performer; and best songwriter. Harjo currently teaches poetry, Native Culture and Literature at UCLA, but it's music that may cross her over. She's a passionate singer and insightful song writer who powerfully blends reggae, rock, folk, pow-wow and spoken word elements, into her poet visions.

For more information, visit the site for the Native American Music Awards at www.Nammys.com

JOY HARJO

Jamie Coon receives nomination for Single of the Year

OKEMAH — Jamie Coon, a 1997 graduate of Okemah High School, has just received a nomination from the Los Angeles Music Award.

Breathe, *taken from her upcoming album* Silent Words, *was nominated as single of the year. The awards show will be held November 2005 in Hollywood, California.*

Coon is also working on new music for an Indian film being shot in Canada. She will be performing March 25, 2005 at the Knitting Factory in Hollywood for the Lebowski West Fest pre-party.

Proceeds from this show will be donated to Jeff Bridges' charity, End Hunger. For more information about Jamie Coon or where she will be playing next, visit her website at www.jamiecoon.com.

SIDNEY BARNES

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Sidney Barnes were held January 8 at the Williamson Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. J.B. Fish officiating.

He was born January 16, 1948 to Tom and Leila Barnes of Wetumka.

Preceding him in death were: his father; brother, Charles Thomas Barnes; and sisters, Leila and Betty Loretta Barnes.

Survivors include: his mother; sisters, Ann Gibson, Gloria B. Jones, Mickey Deer and Paula Herrod; two sons, Neville and Somachee Barnes; daughter, Johnetta Battiest; and several nieces, nephews, cousins and many special friends.

Pallbearers include: Legas Barnett; Palmer Noon; Alex Deer; Hillis Herrod; William Gouge; Steven Thompson and Toma Barnes.

Interment was held at the Barnes Family Cemetery in Wetumka.

HENRY BROWN

BIXBY — Funeral services for Henry Brown were held January 19 at Leonard & Marker Funeral Home with Rev. Jimmy Alexander officiating.

He was born November 8, 1926 in Eufaula to John and Alice Brown.

Henry graduated in 1947 from Liberty High School, where he was very active in sports. Brown and his brother, John D, played on the same basketball team and they were both outstanding players.

He was a christian man who was baptized in his earlier years.

Brown was a soldier who served in the U.S. Army during WWII and the Korean War. After his tour of duty, he was employed by North American Rockwell aviation where he later retired after several years of service.

Henry's hobbies included: wolf hunting and was a member of the Osage Hills Fox and Wolf Hunters Association; coaching softball and his team was a member of the Tulsa Fast Pitch Association; dominoes and won several domino tournaments and horse racing.

He was preceded in death by: his son; Henry Brown Jr.; parents; brother; Marchie Brown; and two sisters, Loda Stafford and Martha Sue Deo.

Survivors include: daughter, Phillis Quinn of Commerce, California; son, Jonathan Brown of Pauls Valley; four grandchildren; two-great grandchildren; two sisters, Dorothy Ciak of Topeka, Kansas and Grace Slinker of Mounds; three brothers, John of Bixby, Roy of Tulsa and Otis Brown of Mounds; and a host of other relatives.

Casketbearers include: Matt Ciak; Roger Bell; Charles Slinker; Vince Deo; John L. and John John Brown.

Interment was at Bixby Cemetery.

KENNETH CHILDERS

COWETA — Funeral services for Kenneth Leroy Childers were held February 8 at the First Baptist Church with Revs. Ed Rutherford, George Doyle and Randy Wilson officiating.

He was born at Claremore Hospital on May 31, 1940 to the late Mose Childers and Violet Williams.

Kenneth grew up in Coweta and graduated from CHS in 1958 where he played football and was in the 4-h club and FFA. After graduating from high school he joined the Navy and served for two years on the USS Breckenridge. He then went to Chicago Allied Institute where he learned the heating and air conditioning trade. From there he went to Dallas and married Sandra Delby.

Childers participated in rodeos from 1962 to 1980 as a bull rider. In 1967, he went to Texas to a horse shoeing school, where he learned the trade of a farrier, specializing in corrective shoeing. He and his family moved back to Coweta in 1969. He rode bulls in many rodeos in Texas, Oklahoma and at the Crow Fair in Montana. He rode his last bull at the age of 40 in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. He was president of the Oklahoma All Indian Rodeo Association for 5 years.

Ken began working as the Indian Education Director for Coweta Public Schools in 1976 till the present. In 1996 his program was awarded the title of The Most Outstanding Indian Education program in the United States. While his children were growing up attending school in Coweta he coached them in little league sports.

He took great interest in working for his tribe, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and was elected to the first Muscogee Creek Nation National Council in 1979 representing the Wagoner, Rogers and Mayes County Districts. Childers had the distinguished honor of serving as Speaker of the House for 5 different terms. He served a total of 12 years for Creek Nation. He was especially proud that he was the Speaker of the House at the turn of the century and that his granddaughter, Megan Slayton, had won the title of Little Miss MCN.

Ken was a lifetime member of the Coweta American Legion and was recently awarded a plaque from the Coweta Roundup Club for helping to raise funds for a new arena.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Victor of Tulsa and Daniel Childers of Broken Arrow.

Survivors include: two sisters, Barbara Gillespie of Coweta and Joyce Bear of Tahlequah; two children, Kenneth Leroy Jr. and Jana Rae; and eight grandchildren.

Interment was at Vernon Cemetery in Coweta.

IRENE CLEGHORN

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services were held for Irene Jacobs Cleghorn at Many Springs Indian Baptist Church with Rev. George Doyle officiating.

She was born November 10, 1914 to John Alexander and Nancy Tea Jacobs in Holdenville.

The family lived in an area commonly known as Little River. John and Nancy Jacobs family consisted of six girls and two boys. She attended Sacred Heart Catholic School and Chilocco Indian School, as well as Oklahoma A&M College in Stillwater.

Irene served as a National Council Representative from the Tulsa District for 16 years.

Cleghorn was preceded in death by her husband: James G. Cleghorn; four sisters; and two brothers.

Survivors include: three sons, Robert J., Thomas W. and Ronald A.; sister, Anna Jacobs King; grandson; two great granddaughters; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Robert, Thomas and Jason Cleghorn; Jeff King; Roger Barnett; and George Tiger.

Interment was at the Holdenville City Cemetery.

ALLEN DAILEY

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Allen H. "Sonny Boy" Dailey were held January 15 at the Kelley Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Casey McIntosh and Rev. Alfred Berryhill officiating.

He was born May 16, 1949 to William Henry and Eliza Moore Dailey in Tahlequah.

Allen was a member of the Little Coweta Indian Church in Lenna.

Dailey was a featured artist with the Indian Territory Arts and Humanities Council and an internationally known artist.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Nathaniel Beaver.

Survivors include: wife, Glenda Washington of the home; three sons, Shannon of Tulsa, Christopher of Okmulgee and Edward Washington of Morris; three daughters, Judith King of Henryetta, Shyla Dailey and Melissa Pigeon, both of Okmulgee; two brothers, Woody Lee of Hoffman and John Timothy of Muskogee; two sisters, Glenda Scott and Edna Brownfield, both of Dewar; and fifteen grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Mark Beaver; Rocky Lee; Derick and Dionn Brownfield; Johnny Timothy II; Keith Scott; and Casey McIntosh.

Interment was at the Okmulgee Cemetery.

NORA DOYLE

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Nora Wind Doyle were held January 12 at High Springs Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Amon Harjo and Harley Barnoski officiating.

She was born April 29, 1923 in Okemah to George Wind and Millie Burris Wind.

Nora was a homemaker. She moved to the Tulsa area in 1950. Doyle was a member of the High Springs Indian Baptist Church.

She married George Doyle on August 29, 1956 in Tulsa. They have celebrated 48 years of marriage.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; four brothers; and six sisters.

Survivors include: her husband; son, James Doyle of Tulsa; daughter, Verbena S. Coulter of Beaver Creek, Oregon; fourteen grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a large group of nieces and nephews.

Casketbearers were: David Randolph; Willie Hale; Mike McChristian; Richard Wesley; Amon Deere; and Christopher Powell. Honorary Casketbearers were: Robert Washington; Paul Fixico; Charles Carey; Amos and Leonard Harjo.

Interment was at Highland Cemetery in Okemah.

DR. LEOLA TAYLOR

OWASSO — Funeral services for Dr. Leola Sayoha McGilbra Taylor were held February 8 at the First Assembly of God Church.

She was born August 29, 1916 in Eufaula to Lewis Alexander and Ethel Mae Davis McGilbra. Taylor was reared in the Eufaula and McAlester areas and graduated from Chilocco Indian School.

Leola was recently inducted into their Hall of Fame for her contributions to Indian education. She continued her education attending Southeastern State College at Durant where she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in 1942. Her teaching career began at Oktaha, then Talihina, before taking a post at Stringtown, where she met Junius Jesse Taylor. They were married and moved to Atoka to teach with him.

Taylor worked many years for the Bureau of Indian Affairs as an administrator and education specialist. Between her BIA assignments and raising two children, Dr. Taylor received her Doctorate of Education in 1973 from OSU where she majored in school administration.

She was also a member of the Order of The Eastern Star of the State of Oklahoma and was a Past Matron. Leola was a member of the American Auxiliary of University Women, Kappa Kappa Iota, The Oklahoma Educational Association, the National Education

please see **TAYLOR**..., page 23

January District Court filings

Marriage License:

- None

Protective Orders:

- King: Scott v. McNac: Kim
Ex-Parte
- Starkey: Bart v. Walston: Ashley
Ex- Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

- None

Criminal Felonies:

- MCN v. Williams: Stuart
Aggrevated Battery

Traffic:

- MCN v. James: Terry
Failure to stop for stop sign
- MCN v. Schroeder: Brian
Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Mason: Jerry
Disorderly Conduct

Family Domestic:

None

Divorce:

- Williams: Kyle v. Turpin: Faith
- Francis: Sandra v. Francis: Spencer

Civil/ Small Claims:

- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Johnson: Barbara
Small Claims
- Security Finance v. Moore: Cassie
Small Claims
- Creditors Recovery v. Harjo: Nettie
Foreign Judgment
- Royal Finance v. Buckner: Ace
Small Claims
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Casey: Linda
Small Claims
- Rowe: Jonita v. Anderson: Victor, Jr.
Petition

**Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue2, February 2005**

Case No. AD-2004-06
In the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,
Okmulgee District: In The Matter of Adoption of K. D. P.
and Muscogee (Creek) Indian Minor Child

SECOND AMENDED NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: Misty Dawn Postoak and unknown father of K. D. P. Address unknown

MISTY DAWN POSTOAK, MOTHER of K. D. P. and UNKNOWN NATURAL FATHER OF K. D. P. TAKE NOTICE that a petition for the Adpotion of said minor child has been filed in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, State of Oklahoma by Sue BunGarner, the maternal great-grandmother of said minor child. The petition alleges that you are the parents of K. D. P., born August 9, 1996 and that you have not supported or visited said K. D. P. for a period of time in excess of one year. The Petition seeks to proceed with the Adoption without your consent due to this nonsupport of abandoment.

The Petition also seeks to waive the interlocutory order and the six-month waiting period. The Petition will be heard on the **11 day of April, 2005,** at 10:00 a.m. before the Honorable Judge Patrick Moore in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

TAKE FUTHER NOTICE that an Application for a hearing to determine that K.D. P. is eligible for adoption without your consent was filed at the same time as the petition. This would allow the adoption to continue without your approval and will result in the termination of your parental rights. This application will be heard on the **14th day of March, 2005**, at 10:00 a.m. before the Honorable Judge Patrick Moore in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

THE HEARING on the application cannot be held less than twenty days from the time notice is provided to you. Further, you may have certain rights under trival laws and Federal Indian Child Welfare Act. These rights include the right to appear at all hearings and the right to a court-appointed attorney in the Court determines you are indigent. You also have the right to request an additional twenty day to respond to this action. You may have other rights under Tribal and Federal law regarding this action.

You are therefore notified that the Court will hear evidence in this application on the date shown. You have a right to appear at this hearing and be heard as to your evidence.If you fail to appear at the hearing scheduled in this notice, the Court may find the constitutes a denial of your interest in said minor child. The denial will lead, without further notice to you, of the child's adoption. This would determine your parental rights to the above named child.

signed and dated this 17 day of January, 2005

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court
/s/ Josie C. Stanley, OBA # 19063; MCN # 185
Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc.
4200 Perimeter Center, Suite 222
Oklahoma City, Ok 73112
(405) 943-6457
Attorney for Petitioner

Moore

continued from page 14

year.

Surrounding the central area was a formidable palisade 20 to 30 feet in height erected to protect and help repel any hostile force that might advance on the town. These forts had defense parapets every 30 to 40 feet for Red Stick archers when the town was under attack..

From a religious standpoint the inhabitants believed the world they were born into was only a temporary place and that below was a horrible watery place full of snakes and cold blooded creatures, and above there was a beautiful world ruled by the sun and symbolized by eagles and falcons. They believed when they died they went to higher place in the universe, a land of plenty where they would be united with their ancestors who had gone on before them.

Town artisans crafted pottery, made clothing, blankets and mats by hand, formed jewelry out of copper from northern Michigan, silver from the southwest, meteoric iron, quartz and animal teeth. They sculpted pipes from soap stone and slate, used sheets of mica from the Carolinas for silhouettes of animals and humans, shells from the Gulf of Mexico, feathers from as far away as Central America, obsidian from Wyoming, chalcedony from North Dakota, slate, chert and freshwater pearls from their own streams and quarries. They were expert tanners and made use of furs for clothing and robes in the cooler months. These craftsman also worked with drills, awls and scrapers to produce gorgets and tightfitting bracelets. Skilled wood carvers and sculptors produced beautiful eagles, falcons and other animals for sale or trade.

The construction and maintenance of these large pyramid towns required a substantial work ethnic and very disciplined leadership. Engineers have estimated that one seventy foot high pyramid would have required over 72,000 tons of earth and would have taken 1,000 workers over 5 years to construct. Material was often continually added to the pyramid for up to a century resulting in some awesomely huge pyramids. As construction progressed excavated pits were filled with freshwater and stocked with fish to feed the general populace.

Each town had several storytellers who provided entertainment and taught the lessons of the past to old and young alike. Children played with dolls, animal toys, toy canoes and the family watch dog.

Some towns had both summer and winter houses, the winter house had a hearth inside for cooking and heating plus plaster walls to keep winter winds out, the summer house in contrast was more open and all cooking was done outside.

Still visible today in central Alabama at Moundville, along the Black Warrior River, are 6 of the more than 20 original temple pyramids built over 1000 years ago. This complex was mysteriously abandoned during the late to 1300's to early 1400's, long before European explorers arrived in North America. Scientists speculate that as the population grew health risks due to poor sanitation may have spawned epidemics that reduced the population and prompted a return to smaller villages and towns.

Taylor

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Association, The Classroom Teachers Association, The International Reading Association and a past member of the Oklahoma State Reading Board.

Dr. Taylor was currently employed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Okmulgee as a grant writer.

Survivors include: son, Myron Taylor; daughter, Lynn Newton, both of Owasso; six grandchildren; sister, Dovie Goins of Checotah; and brother, Albert McGilbra of Oktaha.

Interment was at Greenhill Cemetery in Muskogee.

Shop talk with Gerald

Eventhough spring draws near, indoor activities continue. If you can grab a few good athletes you might want to consider entering the Sapulpa High School Native American Student Association (NASA) volleyball tournament. The weekend event will take place on Saturday, February 26. For more information call the Sapulpa Schools Indian Education Program at (918) 224-9322 or log onto the program's web-site at www.sapulpa.k12.ok.us.

Those interested in discovering or finding out more about the historic game of stickball may want to pay a visit to Tahlequah and the Cherokee Heritage Center. The exhibit will also focus on Cherokee athletes as well. Sports historians will find the exhibit about the game of stickball fascinating, a sport that certainly influenced all 5 tribes from the southeast that now make Oklahoma their home.

You know, sometimes sports and social issues collide and often their is no clear winner. As in any game, it all depends on what side you're on. The Oklahoma Senate is considering making State Senate Bill 567 a law. If in effect, the law would ban school sports teams from using titles associated with Native American ties. The controversial names of Redskins, Indians, or Braves would be outlawed. Now the bill may be changed to target names such as Savages or Redskins only.

If this bill becomes a law, Oklahoma could set a national precedent. California tried to pass a similar law last year, but, it was vetoed by Governor Arnold Schwarznegger. Around 24 Oklahoma schools use the names with Native American ties. Again, it all depends on what side you're on. You will find many Native American people that are certainly opposed to any title associated with Indian mascots and find it insulting. It is also interesting to see many Native American people who have no problem with any sport mascot name and look at the various titles as a form of honor. Certainly a majority of the nonnative community have watched the Oklahoma Indian reaction, whether it is in support or not, and have certainly used either option to strengthen their cause.

It's unfortunate that some associations and friendships have been strained because of this issue. Hopefully a peaceful resolution can be reached. Realistically, the final decision will be hard for either party to accept. But in the end, hopefully Indian people can still be united.

Basketball is in high gear again. State tournaments, independent tournaments, and just about everything else is getting ready to take center stage. We are certainly on the eve of March Madness!

Remember to keep sending in sports information about all those great Creek athletes in your community. We can't brag on them if we don't know who there are!

Yuchi athlete makes impact with Razorbacks

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK. —The University of Arkansas Razorback Women's Tennis Coach Michael Hegarty and her coaching staff went to the desert sands of Arizona to snatch a star recruit Yawna Allen.

Allen, a 5'4 freshman from the Phoenix area, attended the Bollettier Tennis Academy in Florida a year ago. The Academy is where young and upcoming tennis athletes showcase their skills to the public and potential college recruiters. Tennis stars such as Andre Agassi and Monica Seles also attended the academy. While at Bollettier, Allen met Coach Hegarty who promptly offered the young athlete a scholarship.

University of Arkansas Tennis Star Yawna Allen and her mother Casaja

Prior to beginning at Arkansas, Allen ranked as one of the top American Junior players breaking into the top 50 in the nation in the spring of 2004. In April of the same year, Allen reached the round of 32 in the Easter Bowl Championships, one of the most prestigious junior tournaments in the country. Allen, who has been playing competitively since the age of 10, earned 18 wins and only 1 loss in the southwest region and collected 3 tournament titles, including the Arizona Junior Open.

She also competed in the National Indian Championships in July of last year and won the championship. Allen even made the consolation quarterfinals of the Copper Bowl at Tucson.

Winning and experiencing great success has continued for Allen. Since she began her Lady Razorback singles career, Allen is undefeated in four matches to capture her first championship at the 2004 Lady Razorback Invitational.

Allen's family are no strangers to the game of tennis, her mother, Casaja, played in the number one position for the women's team at Haskell when it was a Junior College.

Besides having a great tennis program, Allen chose Arkansas because her mother, grandparents, and aunts were all moving back to Oklahoma. Allen is majoring in Journalism/Business and is also a writer. Some of her works can be seen on the internet at: www.poetry.com

Creek athlete contributes to Sequoyah basketball team's success

TAHLEQUAH — The Sequoyah team just keeps on rolling and Muscogee (Creek) athlete Justin Marshall is a contributing member. Marshall, who hails from Eufaula, is one of the reasons why the Indians are enjoying a number one ranking in High School Class 3A basketball.

Marshall

Coach Larry Grigg is pleased with Marshall's play. "We have Justin listed as our four position, which is a post forward," explains Grigg. "He (Justin) has helped us on our defense, and has even turned a few games around in our favor. He is an excellent rebounder. He only averages 6 points per game, but we rely on him for his defense and rebounding ability, which is how he helps us the most."

One important contest the Indians faced earlier this season was their instate rival, the Riverside Braves. The Braves defeated them and eliminated Sequoyah from the 2004 Class 3A state basketball tournament. In the first face-off this year, the Indians found themselves behind 22-36 in the first half, but rallied in the second half by scoring 50 points and holding the Braves to only 27 points for a 72-63 win. Marshall's play was very key in the second half.

"I concentrate on improving each and every game and look towards one goal, a state championship," said Marshall.

Marshall, as well as the rest of the Indians team, looks forward to district play where they square off against the Henryetta Knights on Friday, Feb. 18 in Briggs.

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Sports: Member of a championship team looks back and reflects

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Muscogee Nation News

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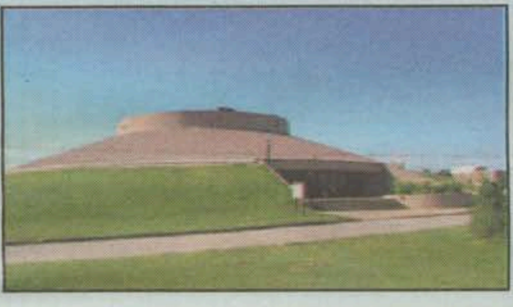
New look for official website

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation official website has recently undergone significant changes for a more user-friendly interaction and a cutting edge look.

The new site will allow tribal citizens to download applications, forms and information on their home computers or at their local community centers. Ron Raper, Infomation Technology Manager, has installed computers and lines for several of the community centers to assist tribal citizens with the equipment needed to contact tribal departments via the e-mail system, as well as access many forms and applications.



The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department now monitors, maintains and instructs changes to the site through the Graphic Design Division. Carla Brown, Webmaster and Graphic Designer, will manage these changes and implement all information as it is received.

"This site is growing daily and over the next few months it will increase in informational size," said Brown. "Our website committee, which consists of David King, Housing Division, Brandy Stuart, MIS Health Administration, and Suzie Joki, Graphic Design Assistant, have one goal in mind, that is to create a site that will be both educational and easy to use. The Tribe has so much to offer citizens and through this website we hope to provide a way of getting this information into the homes of our citizens."

For questions and comments pertaining to the website, contact Brown at (918) 732-7643. Visit the newly structured site at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Tribal officials break ground for Casino expansion

by Gerald Wofford

TULSA — Tribal progress was made again Saturday, March 12 as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation broke ground on a $3.4 million expansion project at the Tulsa Casino on 81st and Riverside Drive.

The expansion project will expand the casino to about 81,000 sq. ft. of gaming space. "This is really exciting for our nation," said Principal Chief A.D. Ellis. "We (tribe) have been looking forward to this expansion for some time."

The Excitement Is Buil

Pictured above, from left to right, is Claude Sumner, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, and Ed Bishop, E.G.B. Architects.

The south side of the casino will be expanded by adding 34,000 square feet and, once completed, the entire casino will have 400 new gaming machines. Currently the casino has about 1,200 gaming devices.

Chief Ellis explained to the audience that the expansion project is not part of the $100 million dollar resort plan that was announced last year. The resort will be built in another location along Riverside drive. No immediate plans have been released for this project. "Probably the first of September, we will have another ground breaking for our showplace casino of Oklahoma," said Chief Ellis.

With the expansion of the Tulsa Casino, officials are expecting an additional 200 jobs to be created.

"We're doing this for our citizens, our Creek people," added Chief Ellis. "There's been comments that gaming takes the money out of the economy. Well, that's a bad remark because the millions and millions of dollars that we make here at this casino is being put right back into the economy of eastern Oklahoma."

Chief Ellis also remarked on the impact tribes will have across the state. "I just vision for the next two years what will happen with the Muscogee Nation and all the Indian Nations of eastern Oklahoma. We're going to have a huge impact on what happens to this state!"

The expansion project is expected to be completed by August.

Special election to fill National Council vacancy to be held

OKMULGEE — In accordance with NCA 99-20, Article X, Section 9-100 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is announcing a call for a Special Election to fill the vacancy of Seat E in the Tulsa District.

The National Council adopted NCA 99-20 which authorizes the Principal Chief to call for a Special Election whenever a vacancy occurs in accordance with Article V Section 1 (c).

The filing period will be March 21 through March 23, 2005 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. There will be a $200 filing fee.

The Special Primary Election shall be held April 16 and if there is need for a Special General Election, it will be held on May 21, 2005.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation declared that there is a need for a Special Election to fill the vacancy of Seat E in the Tulsa District due to the death of National Council Representative Jesse Kelley.

For more information, please call the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732-7684 or 7685.

Expression of Thanks

Editor:

On behalf of the family of Polly Ann (Washington) Fish, I would like to thank you for your thoughtful expression of sympathy to Reverend Norman Daniel, Shurden Funeral Home, Hospice of Del City and the McLoud Nursing Home Staff.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a funeral spray, if so we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much whatever the part.

KoKo Lowe, Okmulgee

Thanks to soldiers and members of tribe

Editor:

As we draw close to the end of our tour in Iraq, I want to thank you for all of your support, not only the members of your tribe, but also to all the soldiers of the 120th Engineer Battalion. Our Chaplain, CPT Fisher, has had the opportunity to visit our units at various operating bases to photograph the member(s) of your tribe. Her efforts allows me to fulfill my part of our agreement to send back one of the flags we flew in Iraq and photos of your tribe's members.

We have had a successful tour in the fight against Global terrorism and establishing democracy in Iraq. The members of your tribe have served honorably and you can be proud of their service. I am sure that you are as proud of them as I am and that you will honor them for their service once they return home.

We have some very good news about the intertribal powwow that you so willingly supported us in last September. We share in the honor of a request by the Smithsonian Institute to display the intertribal Pow-Wow artifacts as tribute to Native Americans serving in the military in Iraq. During the powwow, our combat cameraman suggested that we send the artifacts to the Native American Museum in Washington D.C. A participant and organizer of the Pow-Wow took the idea and contacted the Institute. At this time, the Smithsonian is working with us on sending the artifacts back to the United States and we are working on a date to unveil the display.

I had originally thought the unit would keep the other set of tribal flags at the Battalion Headquarters. However, with the recognition of the Museum, I feel it is only appropriate that these flags be apart of the display. We will continue to keep you informed of any plans or dates that are set to display to artifacts of the powwow at the Smithsonian.

Again, please accept my deepest expression of gratitude for your enduring support of the 120th Engineer Battalion throughout our deployment. Thank you.

William Bartheld, LTC, EN Commanding

Loved one voices concern

Editor:

I am writing this letter of my concerns of how families are treated when they are trying to bury their loved ones by other persons with their own agenda. The death of a loved one is very traumatic and you're just going through the motions, saying "good-bye" to the physical body is very difficult. The grief is overwhelming, your mind is thinking of a million memories of them of every aspect of your life together. It is here that "People of God" and others try to bully you into doing the service their way, and if the families allow that, more often than not, they leave the funeral service upset with what was said about their loved ones. Families leave with negative memories instead of positive loving memories of how their loved ones are remembered.

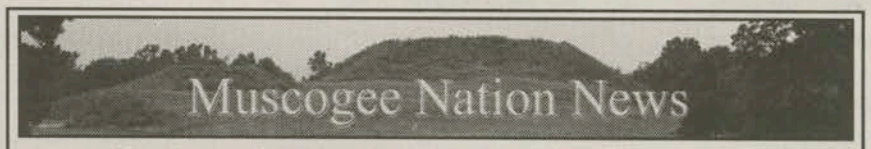
I only offer this advice out of love and respect: For those who are asked to conduct the service, please honor the family and their wishes as to how they would like their loved one to be remembered. After all, it is their final tribute to their loved ones on this earth, and it is them so are left with paying the funeral bill, and other expenses. It is them who are going to remember every detail of their loved ones life, including how they were put to rest. To say, "If I knew how you were wanting to do the service, we wouldn't have allow the body here," is utterly disrespectful and shows no compassion or comfort for the family. If these persons were truly Christian, they should know — No One Owns a house of God, that God created everything on this earth, and he makes no mistakes.

For the families who are going through this or will in the future: state your wishes and stand your ground. Do not let any persons bully you to their agenda and if you have to write the service yourself as to what you want people to remember about your loved one and their life on this earth, then by all means write it. It hurts me to see this happening all over Creek Nation and I can only pray and hope that this practice of bullying families during funerals stops. Families should be left with good memories from birth to final rest at this time, not memories of how other people wanted to do the service their way in front of an audience, there is a time and a place for that, but not at the expense of a loved ones funeral. It is the families last time on earth with their loved ones, though they will see them again in another life, it is only respectful to honor and comfort the family during this time as much as possible.

I've acknowledged Second Chief Alfred Berryhill before and I will do it again, Thank You! You are truly a man of God, and you turned a negative experience my family encountered into a loving, positive tribute to our parents. Because of you, we left with good memories that will be cherished forever. May God Bless You in all of your endeavors, whether it be personal or for our Nation. Thank You!

Sincerely,

Eugene and Rose Kelly Family



Members of the following two associations:

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Native American Journalist Association

NAPP

The National Association of Photoshop Professionals

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Second opinion

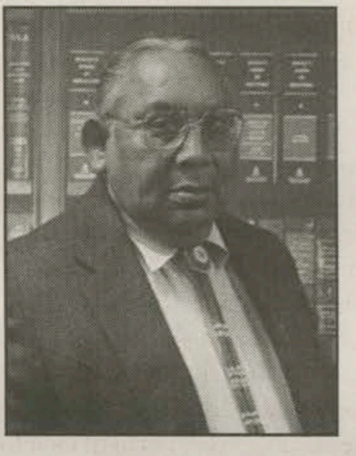
by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

I share the loss of two of our beloved men who served the Creek Nation with dignity: **Mr. Ken Childers** and **Mr. Jess Kelly**. Our prayers continue to be with the family. I also attended three other funerals and my prayers are with their families as well.

This is the season of Lent and Easter will soon be upon us. Let's not forget the true meaning of Easter: the life and death of our Savior Jesus Christ. The world has been truly blessed. I know that there will be many Easter egg hunts as well.

Not only is it Easter season, but it's also wild onion season and there are many vendors at this time of year. It's a good time to fellowship with our brothers and sisters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I hope that we as diabetics don't over do it.

Now the continuation of the last issue's story: "There they encountered the Alibamons, whom they had pursued for a long time. They made preparations for the combat. The Tastanegy, or great war chief, arranged the march in the following order: The family of the Wind, from which he had been chosen, crossed the river in the first line; it was followed by the family of the Bear, and then by that of the Tiger [Panther] and so on. When this river was crossed, as the entire Nation was on the march, it was necessary to take measures to avoid a surprise on the part of the enemy; and, in case of an encounter with the enemy, to protect all those who were unable to fight. For this purpose, the young people, with their war chiefs, formed the van; the old men the rear guard; those of an age less advanced were on the flanks; the women and the children in the center. They marched in this order until the moment when they encountered the enemy. Then the young men advanced alone with their Tastanegy at their head, and left the main body of the nation in a place of safety, and under the protection of the old men. By a stealthy and well planned march they surprised their enemy, and reached the caves which the Alibamons inhabited, before the latter were warned; and, not allowing them time to rally, they made a great slaughter. The fright into which such a surprise threw the foe caused them to abandon their dwellings; they fled along the Missouri, and rallied on the banks of this river, while the Moskoquis were gone to rejoin their countrymen, in order to march again on the trail of the enemy. The Alibamons, fearing a new surprise, had made their old men, women, and children march in advance, the young warriors forming the rear-guard; then they continued for some time to descend this river on its right bank. The Moskoquis, following their trail, caught up with them, and defeated them many times. The Alibamons, seeing they were thus pursued, had made the body of their nation pass over to the left bank of the Missouri, and had given them time to get some distance in advance, by delaying the march of the enemy by various skirmishes. But, fearing that they would be unable to resist their attacks, they took advantage of the darkness one night to rejoin their fathers, the Moskoquis not observing them. The latter not finding any enemy when day came and suspecting the course they had taken, crossed the river in order to pursue them again. After a march of some days they again encountered them, and forced them to accept a general battle in which the Alibamons were defeated and fled to the banks of the Mississippi. The Moskoquis, pursuing them with fury, forced them to throw themselves into the river, where a very great number perished. The young Moskoqui warriors, having thus weakened their enemy considerably, cease to pursue them until they had been rejoined by the body of the nation, which followed by short stages. They remained eight days on the bank of this river in order to rest."



"During all this time the Alibamons had marched rapidly and gotten far in advance. The Moskoquis, trying to catch them, buried themselves in an immense forest which is on the left bank of the Mississippi; they camped, but, as there appeared to be no advantage in establishing themselves there, the old men decided to continue the march, and, for this purpose, to send the young warriors in pursuit of the enemy. They advanced again; and, after a march of some days, they came to the river Ohio, which the French call Belle-Riviere. They went up along the banks near the Wabash; and, perceiving that the Alibamons had crossed the Ohio, they also crossed it. When they were on the other side, finding a region with a very beautiful climate, and very rich in all kinds of game, they determined to establish themselves there, and fixed their dwelling in what is known as the Yazau country. As the season was much advanced, they ceased their pursuit, and contended themselves with sending some young warriors to try to discover the route which the Alibamons had taken. The Moskoquis, profiting by some caves which they found and some which they made, took possession of the Yazau lands, where they passed many years, and where the caves which they excavated exist to this day."

"The Alibamons had advanced as far as the banks of the river Coussa; not seeing themselves pursued, and finding themselves in a fertile country, they stopped there; but as they were always in fear of some surprise they sent youths to find out what had become of the Moskoquis and whether they were still pursuing them. Although the war which the Moskoquis waged at this time on the Alibamons had originated in an aggression on the part of the latter, who had killed Moskoqui warriors, the youths who had been sent to discover the Moskoqui had the imprudence to kill the first whom they met. The old men, having been informed of this new aggression, had them march against the Alibamons. The Moskoqui warriors, having learned that the country which their enemy inhabited was toward the rising sun, in a region where the rigors of winter are little felt, and where a great quantity of game of all kinds is to be found, resolved to pursue them a third time, and to populate that country, which is between the Floridas. With this object in view they crossed the river Cumberland and the Tennessee, and followed from the north the river Coussa, on the banks of which the remains of the Alibamons had established themselves. The latter, having learned of the march of the Moskoquis, did not think it well to await them, they abandoned their position and scattered. Some went to seek an asylum among the Tehactas, and the rest repaired to Mobile, under the protection of the French, who had then just taken possession."

"The Moskoquis, no longer finding enemies to fight, took peaceful possession of the country which they had just conquered. They established themselves on the rivers Coosa, Tallapoosa, Chattahoochee, Flint, Ocmulgee, little and great Oconee and Ogechee, and pushed their settlements as far as the river Savannah in Georgia, where the city of Augusta is now built." TO BE CONTINUED

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES

WAR CLUBS

BY: PATRICK MOORE

Ancient North American Native Americans used many different types of weapons when conducting warfare and performing ceremonies.

One such weapon, the war club, was used through out both the north and south American continents. The war club was often made using chert, jasper or flint. These stones were grooved for the attachment of a wooden handle that made a very efficient weapon when the owner engaged in the hand to hand combat. A war club was the weapon of choice by Pre-Columbian Native American soldiers.

These early Native American soldiers did not believe there was a higher honor than to physically touch the enemy while on the field of battle, they even carried a coup stick for use in very close quarters to touch the opponent.

Early stone clubs were carved or chipped into magnificent works of art. Stone war clubs have been discovered buried in ancient mounds located in the southeastern United States. Some were carved out of one piece of green stone a foot or more in length with the club and handle being of monolithic construction. These stone clubs were owner decorated with intricate engravings. Stone clubs were carved with a handle knob for attachment of a leather or woven wrist cord. Anthropologists believe many of these clubs also served as ceremonial objects.

The most common Pre-Columbian war club had a stone head attached to a wooden handle and this weapon was used extensively through out North America by prehistoric hunter warriors.

please see **MOORE**..., page 14

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the January 25, emergency session.

January 25, Emergency session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

representative **Ade** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (19-0-0) TR 05-024, authorizing designated attorney's to file suit on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation against the state of Oklahoma in reference to the tobacco compact;

representative **Ade** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 05-019, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Office of the Tax Commission for the remainder of fiscal year 2005;

January 29, Quarterly session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Veto Message:

• veto (25-0-0) TR 04-131, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for the purpose of constructing a health facility/senior assistant living center;

In order of business the Council:

• failed (12-13-0) TR 05-002, authorizing the Principal Chief to negotiate for a tribal gaming compact between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the State of Oklahoma for Class III games;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved as amended (20-5-0) TR 05-003, authorizing the Principal Chief to negotiate and execute a contract to purchase real property in Okfuskee County in Weleetka, Oklahoma on State Highway 75 to be used for economic development for the Weleetka Indian Community;

voting no were: **Notaro**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (25-0-0) TR 05-004, authorizing the Principal Chief to accept a deed for a tract of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by the Eufaula Indian Community;

representative **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (22-2-0) TR 05-006, authorizing the execution of a quality assurance representative agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and **Jerry O. Lawson**;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

representative **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (24-0-0) TR 05-007, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Housing Authority of Creek Nation of Oklahoma, Inc.

representative **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (24-0-0) TR 05-008, approving the policy and procedures for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division elderly housing program;

representatives **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote, and representative **Kelley** was excused;

• approved (21-2-0) TR 05-009, authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Business Enterprise Board to execute an attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, a business enterprise board and **Steve Pazzo**;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; and **Wind**, Okfuskee;

representative **Tiger** was excused;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 05-010, confirming the nomination of **Janne F. Deere** to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Board;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 05-011, authorizing the Principal Chief to accept a deed for a tract of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by the Checotah Indian Community;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 05-012, confirming the nomination of **Blue Clark** to serve on the Oklahoma Tribal University Board of Regents;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 04-014, confirming the nomination of **Robert E. Lagrone, Jr.** to serve on the Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority Board of trustees;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 05-015, approving a memorandum of understanding with Arnold Air Force Base, Tennessee, for the preservation and repatriation of human remains and artifacts that may be found at Arnold Air Force Base;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 05-016, authorizing the Koweta Indian Community the use of the Great Seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved to postpone (23-0-0) TR 05-017, authorizing the Principal Chief to prepare and submit an application for a pre-disaster mitigation grant – competitive to develop a hazard mitigation plan for the Muscogee Nation and approve an agreement with Brake & Associates for development of a Hazard mitigation plan;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 05-018, recognizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation "For Love of the Game" board plan;

• approved (13-10-0) TR 05-019, confirming the nomination of **Shane T. Berry** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 05-020, confirming the nomination of **Monty L. Bunny** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship board;

• approved (12-11-0) TR 05-021, confirming the re-nomination of **Corky D. McAdams** to serve on the Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority board of trustees;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 05-022, confirming the nomination of **Nelson C. Johnson** to serve as gaming commissioner;

• approved to postpone (22-1-0) NCA 05-001, appropriating funds necessary to enter into a tribal gaming compact between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the State of Oklahoma for Class III Games;

voting no was: **Pickering**, McIntosh;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 04-002, repealing NCA 92-27 which authorizes the Principal Chief to request that the Eufaula Indian Community property be put in trust;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-003, appropriating funds for the incidental costs associated with accepting a deed for a tract of property in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by the Eufaula Indian Community;

• approved (17-6-0) NCA 05-006, amending MCNCA Title 37, Chapter three entitled "Employees";

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-008, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Higher Education, post graduate program;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-009, authorizing a special appropriation to the Twin Hills Indian Community for an addition of a canopy at the building entrance and drainage gutters for drainage away from the building;

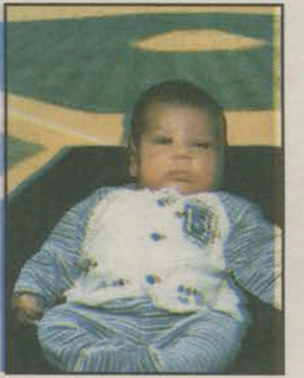
• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-010, amending MCNCA Title 17, § 6-113.B. to allow Muscogee (Creek) Nation District court to have jurisdiction over contract disputes involving the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise;

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 14

Births

Kiya Benjamin Haney-Powell

TAHLEQUAH — Kiya Benjamin Haney-Powell was born on December 9 at W.W. Hastings Hospital to Jamie Haney and Cameron Powell.


Haney-Powell

He weighed 5 lbs. and 3.2 ounces and was 17 1/2 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Willie Sr. and Ellen (Kathy) Haney of Morris. Paternal grandparents are Jerry and Karen Powell of Henryetta.

Jasmine Andreah Hammonds

COLUMBUS, GA. — Jasmine Andreah Hammonds was born at the Medical Center on October 6th to Sonja Randall and Lionel Hammonds of Columbus, Georgia.

Hammonds

Jasmine weighed 3 lbs and 8.6 oz and was 14 1/2 inches long.

Maternal Grandparents are Willie Charlie Randall of Okmulgee and Mary Randall of Oklahoma City. Paternal Grandparents are: Orenza London and W.C. Hammonds Jr., both of Columbus, Georgia. Paternal great-great grandmother is Sadie Hammonds of Columbus, Georgia.

Birthdays

Mitchell celebrates 3rd Birthday

HENRYETTA — Asa James Mitchell celebrated his 3rd birthday on February 19 with lots of friends and family. He had a "Cowboy" theme.

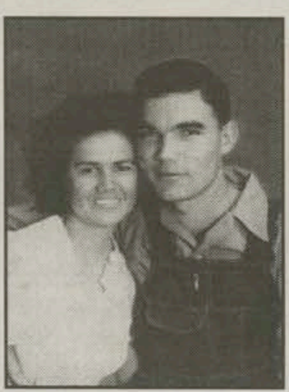
Mitchell

His parents are Dennis Jr. and Shannon Mitchell of Henryetta. Paternal grandparents are Reverend Marvin Lowe and Sharon Lowe of Weleetka. Paternal great grandparents are Pauline Morgan and the Late Dan Morgan of Okmulgee. Maternal great, grandparents are Rosana Whitlow of Dustin and the late Reverend John Lowe and the late Minnie Lowe of Weleetka.

Anniversary

60th Wedding Anniversary

PADEN — Adabell (Eastep) Lee (descendant of original Choctaw enrollee Daniel Gardiner) and Gene T. Lee (descendant of original Muscogee Creek Wallace Doyle) were married in Okemah on April 14, 1945.


Lee

Adabell and Gene made their home in Paden. Gene is retired from the Department of Corrections and is still doing carpentry work. Adabell is a non-retired homemaker. They have 14 children (three deceased), 23 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren.

Society

Alexander receives letter of appreciation

CASTLE — Navy Fireman Robert L. Alexander, son of Nancy L. and George H. Alexander, recently received a Letter of Appreciation from the Secretary of the Navy, for assisting in Tsunami relief efforts during Operation Unified Assistance in Southeast Asia, while assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard, homeported in San Diego. "Your fellow Americans are proud of you and what you accomplished," said Gordon R. England, Secretary Navy. "You showed the world American compassion and mercy. At sea, ashore and in the air, you brought honor to yourselves and to our nation."

Alexander, along with thousands of other U.S. Sailors and Marines, supported more than 6,000 flight hours, helping to deliver more than 20 million pounds of medicine, food and water. The supplies helped save thousands more. USS Bonhomme Richard's primary mission is to embark, deploy and land elements on a marine landing force by helicopter, landing craft air cushion or amphibious assault vehicle.

Alexander is a 2003 graduate of Mason High School, and joined the Navy in October 2003.

Hendrix employed with police department

RATTAN — Chief Hendrix started her law enforcement career with help from Choctaw Nation in getting her G.E.D. and then she started working for Lamar County Sheriff's department at Paris, Texas. She was a Jailer, Dispatcher and Detention Officer. She then completed and had training and has certificate's in the following: basic jail operations; Suicide Prevention; Aerosol Subject Restraint (pepper spray); Oklahoma Self-defense Act (weapons); Unarmed security; Armed security (firearms semiautomatic); report writing and court room testimony; terrorism/weapons of mass destruction; latent fingerprint development; domestic violence and sexual assault; O.S.B.I. rapid response to active shooters; building searches; mental health; and rehab.

On December 17, 2003 she completed and graduated with high honors from the law enforcement academy (C.L.E.E.T.) at Broken Arrow. She has also completed accident prevention course, arson investigation, Doppler traffic radar, enforcing underage drinking laws and public laws, collection/preservation of evidence, and is a member of good standing with the Oklahoma Chief of Police Association and the Oklahoma Police Chiefs Training Foundation.

Victoria is now Chief of Police at Rattan Oklahoma. She resides there with her three daughters, Sarah, Tyler, and Jonna, and has a special friend Clay.

Hendrix

Chief Hendrix is Creek and Seminole and is of the Beaver Clan. Her father is Eddie B. Leader, he is a job specialist for the disabled at Okmulgee and he resides in Henryetta with his son, Bryan Keith Leader.

Her mother is Rev. Vickie Carrell and stepfather Rev. James Carrell. They pastor the Pleasant Hill Community Church in southeastern Oklahoma. Her grandfather is Barney Junior Leader, he was Mekko of New Tulsa ceremonial ground and also a medicine man there.

Citizen featured artist at photography exhibit

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee (Creek) photographer, Kimberly Rodriguez, is a featured artist's in the *Back to Basics Photography* exhibit at City Arts Center in Oklahoma City on April 28 through May 31.

Thirty three year old Rodriguez, from the Bear Clan, is the granddaughter of Alma Bruce (Martin) Brown originally from Stidham, Oklahoma and the daughter of Anita (Brown) Rodriguez of Dallas, Texas.

Rodriguez, who is Muscogee (Creek), Oglala Sioux and Hispanic descent, was born and raised in Dallas, and graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Photography. Rodriguez has been the Merchandise Coordinator for Wright Studios in Dallas, for the past 4 years, works as a free-lance photographer and is pursuing further education to refine her skills in photo retouching. Her work has recently been featured at 1308 Experimental Arts Space in Dallas. The *Back to Basics Photography* exhibit showcases the variety of styles and techniques within the medium of alternative photography.

Eufaula Dormitory Updates

EUFAULA — The Eufaula Dormitory has been very active in many sporting activities this spring. The first and second grade boys played in a tournament in Muskogee but came up short by a score of 16-2. The players were: Alex and Eli Yargee, Ethan Waquie, Thomas Alexander, Jack Eslick, Samantha Tiger, Maresa Franklin, Adam McGirt and Cody Armstrong. The team was coached by Joe McGirt and Gayla Norman.

The third and fourth grade girls also played in the tournament. The team played hard, but lost 16-10. The players were: Samantha Cooper, Cherokee Moore, Teresa Dominick, Angelica Butler, Kadijah Baker, Shakotta Sewell, Haley Waquie and Ashley Sexton. They were coached by Gayla Norman and Lori Bevenue.

Turning to high school athletics, the boys participated in the Area Tournament held at Ada against Broken Bow. Representing the Eufaula Dormitory were Matt Williams, a Junior, from Eufaula and Ronnie Roy, a Senior, from Oklahoma City.

Sports is not all the students focus on. The cultural aspect is important as well. The dormitory students are planning on attending a powwow held at Jones Academy in Hartshorne. The students are excited about attending this annual event.

Last, but not least, High School students, Dereck Pickens from Oklahoma City and Tuli Crook from Tulsa, were selected to participate in a forum to discuss the needs of adolescents in the Creek Nation. The meeting was held at the Complex and the students expressed great interest in seeing how decisions are made that effect services to the youth and Creek Nation of Oklahoma.

Haskell Indian Nations University to host spring recruiting day

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Haskell Indian Nations University athletic department is hosting the school's Spring 2005 Recruiting Day on April 15 on campus. Prospective Native American student-athletes and parents will have the opportunity to meet with head coaches from the women's volleyball, men's and women's basketball, football, golf, softball, men's and women's cross country/track and cheerleading programs.

Parents and students can take a tour of the campus and hear information concerning admissions, financial aid, housing and eligibility.

"This event is open to all Native American athletes who are interested in playing sports on the collegiate level or current college athletes looking at other opportunities" said Dwight M. Pickering, the University's Athletic Director. "All head coaches will be available for questions and we welcome everyone to come and find out more information about our university and it's athletic programs.

Haskell Indian University is a four-year, tuition-free, Native American-only school offering baccalaureate degrees in Elementary Education, Business Administration, American Indian Studies and Environmental Science. The average enrollment is about 900 students. Haskell is a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and competes in the Central States Football League (CSFL) for football and the Midlands Collegiate Athletic Conference (MCAC) for all other sports.

To register or download the 2005 Athletic Recruiting Day form please visit; http://www.haskell.edu/athletics/recruitingday.asp and fax to (785) 832-6632 or mail it back to the Haskell Athletic Department, 155 Indian Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66046.

For more information, contact Dwight M. Pickering, Athletic Director, at (785) 749-8459.

Haskell Indian Nations University

Bacone College to host College Day

MUSKOGEE — On March 23, Bacone College will host College Day. The event will officially kick off the Second All-Indian March Madness Basketball Tournament held in Dewar.

The following list is the tentative agenda: 9 a.m., registration for all events; 11:30 a.m., lunch break; 12:30 p.m., report to gymnasium; 1 p.m., College Day Workshops and 4:45 p.m., return to gymnasium for closing.

The workshops include: admissions and financial aid with Jerret Phillips; essays and scholarships with Jason Murry (Choctaw/Chickasaw), English Professor; Jerrod Adair, Native American Recruiter (Wichita, Pawnee and Cherokee); Cedric Sunray (Cherokee Mowa and Choctaw), Native American Club Coordinator; FAFSA (Pell Grant, OTAG and SEOG); Reba Morton (Choctaw), Financial Aid Officer; Museum and Tours with John Timothy (Muscogee Creek), Director of Ataloa Lodge; Floyd Jones (Muscogee Creek), Director of Residential Housing; and the current Director of Student Services.

The workshops are scheduled for the afternoon to reach the maximum number of students. Bacone will be utilizing the Bacone Athletic Coaching Staff to assist and interact with students.

If you aren't participating in the March Madness Tournament, but would still like to come to College Day, please contact Lucas Taylor, Tournament Coordinator, at (918) 732-7634 to reserve a seat as seating is limited.

Bacone offering Native American scholarships

MUSKOGEE — Bacone College is offering scholarships for the following Native American Clubs: Indian Art Club, all mediums of Indian art (i.e. painting, beadwork, woodcarving, etc.); Indian Cultural Club dancers (traditional and contemporary), traditional storytellers, drum groups, stomp dancers, etc.; Indian Stickball Club, experienced and inexperienced participants; social stickball and competitive stickball; and Indian Language Club.

The basic requirement for the clubs is that all club members must be enrolled citizens of Indian Nations. No experience is required in your choice of club involvement. Bacone will be doing as much learning as teaching. Each club has a mandatory one hour meeting each week and each club has a mandatory one hour meeting every two weeks with NASA (Native American Students Association). Club members must participate in various community service projects and traveling dates. Failure to participate will result in the loss of the scholarship.

Qualified students will receive a scholarship in the amount of 35% of school tuition. During the 2004-2005 school year this equates to $2,847.95 towards a tuition cost of $8,137.

Scholarships are not based on ability, but rather willingness to participate and practice Native American culture. Most scholarships cannot be added to others, with the exception to all tribal scholarships and private scholarships. They can be added to any other scholarship. (Indian Club and Native Learning Work Community are considered institutional scholarships; Tribal scholarships are those given by student's tribes and outside tribal organizations and scholarship funds.)

"To my knowledge, we will definitely be the first school in the country that will be giving scholarships to students for these type of programs," said Cedric Sunray, Coordinator of Native American Clubs.

To apply for these Native American scholarships, contact Cedric Sunray at (918) 781-7312.

Muscogee Creek Nation Scholarship Pageant

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation Scholarship Pageant will be held at 7 p.m. on June 3rd for the Miss and Jr. Miss Competitions. The Sr. Miss and Little Misses Pageant will be held at 10 a.m. on June 4th. Both pageants will be held at Covelle Hall on the OSU-Campus.

Applications are available by calling KoKo Lowe at (918) 732-7665.

Nation 2004

Muscogee Creek Nation Division of Health Administration

Diabetes Prevention Move It Program

OKEMAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Move It has been very active in schools on the McIntosh and Okfuskee County.

The schools involved are Ryal, Stidham, Dustin, Hanna, Weleetka, Mason, Graham, and Bearden. The schools are receiving diabetes education in the regular classroom and in the Physical Education classroom. The students and teachers have been winning prizes each month for the daily exercise programs.

The Diabetes Prevention Program staff is working with the Physical Education teachers at each school by training the staff and buying equipment for the school.

The McIntosh County schools is currently in the second year of the Move It Program and the Okfuskee County schools are in the first year of the program.

MCN Tobacco Prevention Program offer cessation classes

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program offers stop smoking classes based on the second wind curriculum.

The Second Wind Program is designed specifically to help American Indians/Alaskan Natives to stop smoking and remain smoke free. It provides basic information about smoking, practical counseling, problem solving skills and social support.

Evidence from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services guidelines demonstrated that the more intense and longer lasting the intervention the more likely the patient is to stay smoke free.

The Second Wind program consists of six one hour group sessions. The sessions are every two weeks for a total of three months. Patients must have a chart at one of the MCN Health Care Facilities, have seen a physician within the last 12 months, and be ready to quit smoking.

"At the Okmulgee Indian Health Center, they are currently holding a set of evening classes to accommodate those patients who work or who just cannot come during the day. Patients learn many things during the classes including methods of quitting, stages of change behavior model, stress management, communications skills, traditional uses of tobacco and cessation tricks and techniques from each other.

Cessation rates vary widely from one class to another but the average is around 25-30%. Sometimes patients have to try several times before they finally quit for good. There is usually a ripple effect during each smoking cessation class held.

"For every patient that attends class, there is almost always a family member or friend who also decides to quit smoking." said Jana Ross, cessation facilitator for the Okmulgee Indian Health Center. "Smoking cessation classes have a positive impact on communities, although this impact may be hard to measure."

To join the class you will need to ask your doctor to refer you. For more information contact the nearest cessation facilitator. Below is a list of the facilities that we provide cessation classes and the facilitators.

The health center facilities that provide cessation classes and the facilitators are: Eufaula, Melody Thurman at (918) 689-2457; Okemah, James Schmidlkofer at (800) 218-9458; Okmulgee, Jana Ross at (918) 758-1926; and Sapulpa, Jennifer Bishop at (918) 224-9310.

Community Health Representatives in your communities

OKMULGEE — The Community Health Representatives CHR's of the Muscogee Creek Nation have been very active in the communities. The CHR Program held a Health Fair at Kialegee Tribal Town in October. Screenings, along with other activities for the children in the surrounding communities, was held during the fair. The highlight of the fair was a hay ride for both children and adults.

In January, the CHR Program participated in a Career Day at the OSU-Okmulgee, sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM Program. The participants consisted of seventh and eighth graders from within the Creek Nation boundary area. CHR staff members Gayle Yargee and Jensie Jimboy form the CHR office were in attendance at the career day.

In February CHR's hosted a Health Fair held at Checotah Indian Community Center. CHR Tommy Lowe coordinated the Health Fair. Others CHR's involved with the fair were: CHR's Mary Whitetree, Georgia Cook, Christine Roberts and office personnel Gayle Yargee, Cyndi Gilks and Woody Hansen of the Cherokee Nation. Hansen is the OOACHR President.

The participants consisted of Home Health agencies that explained to the visitors what health needs are offered. The CHR also conducted health screenings.

Also in February, CHR Manager, Cindi Gilks and CHR's Mary Gibson, Georgia Cook and Scott Harjo attended the First Responder Training at Tahlequah.

Upcoming events that the CHR's will be attending or hosting is: Violence School Prevention at Checotah Headstart hosted by CHR Tommy Lowe,; Wilson Health Fair, hosted by Scott Harjo; the JOM- Conference; SWAT; and the Creek Nation Challenge Bowl. Health Screenings will be offered at each event. All attendees are encouraged to come by the CHR booth and receive a free health screening.

For more information, contact the CHR Program at (918) 756-1941.

March is Muscogee Nation Nutrition Month

OKMULGEE — March is Muscogee Nation Nutrition Month. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program encourages everyone to:

·**Be adventurous and expand your horizons.** Variety is the "spice of life" in your food choices and is key to good nutrition and health. Choose foods based on flavor, texture and colors that are tasty and healthy. Explore the wide world of nutrition by trying a variety of foods.

·**Treat your taste buds**. You decide how much and how often. Choose foods sensibly by looking at the big picture; it's what you eat over several days, not just one meal or day that counts. So enjoy all your favorite foods, just try eating them in moderate amounts.

·**Balance food choices with your life-style.** Choosing the right balance of foods helps you get the right combination of nutrients.

·**Be active.** Be creative and enjoy a variety of ways to stay active to feel your best. There's no need for expensive equipment or complicated fitness programs. Start by making a list of physical activities that fit into your lifestyle and schedule one every day.

For more information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program at 1 (800) 648-2302.

MCN Tobacco Prevention set camp date

WELLING — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program (TPP) have set the date for the 5th annual Camp Cvfeknetv. The camp will be held July at the Heart O' Hills camp grounds.

Camp Cvfeknetv registration will begin April 11, 2005. TPP will be taking names over the phone and mailing out the registration packets. The forms must be signed and turned back in by June 30, 2005.

Space is limited to the first 100 youth. For more information or to register, contact TPP at (918) 756-6231.

What is the National Indian Gaming Commission

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent federal regulatory agency of the United States. The National Indian Gaming Commission (Commission) was established pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (Act).

The Commission is comprised of a Chairman and two Commissioners, each of whom serves on a full-time basis for a three-year term. The Chairman is appointed by the President and must be confirmed by the Senate. The Secretary of the Interior appoints the other two Commissioners. Under the Act, at least two of the three Commissioners must be enrolled members of a federally recognized Indian tribe, and no more than two members may be of the same political party.

The Commission maintains its headquarters in Washington, D.C., with five Regional Offices, located in the following locations: Portland, Oregon; Sacramento, California; Phoenix, Arizona; St. Paul, Minnesota; and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The present Chairman of the Commission is Mr. Phillip N. Hogen, Oglala Sioux from Pine Ridge Reservation out of South Dakota. The two commissioners are Cloyce V. Choney, Comanche, and Nelson W. Westerin.

The Commission's primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

To achieve these goals, the Commission is authorized to conduct investigations; undertake enforcement actions, including the issuance of notices of violation assessment of civil fines, and/or issuance of closure orders; conduct background investigations; conduct audits; and review and approve Tribal gaming ordinances. (National Indian Gaming Commission)

The regional office for this area is located in Tulsa, OK. It serves the gaming tribes of Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas. The present office personnel is: Tim Harper - Region Chief; Marcie Pate - Field Investigator; Jeanette Ross - Field Investigator; and Rod West - Auditor.

For more information or to get in contact with the regional office, write to: 224 South Boulder, Room 301, Tulsa, OK 74103; or by phone at (918) 581-7924 and the fax number is (918) 581-7933.

UPDATE: State Question 712 - Tribal Status

In the last two month's issue of the *Muscogee Nation News*, State Question 712 *pros* and *cons* were examined. As requested by readers, here is the most up-to-date listing for tribes who have already entered into the Gaming Compact and their present status.

Authorized for expanded gaming: Absentee Shawnee Tribe, Cherokee Nation, Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Citizen Potawotami Nation, Comanche Nation, Eastern Shawnee Tribe, Miami Tribe and Quapaw Tribe.

Approved but awaiting publication in register: Osage Nation

Awaiting approval: Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes, Delaware Nation, Fort Sill Apache Tribe, Kaw Nation, Kickapoo Tribe, Peoria Tribe, Seneca-Cayuga Tribes, Tonkawa Tribe

The listing has been provided as a request and was furnished by *The Oklahoman*.

National Indian Gaming Association 2005
Trade Show & Convention
April 10 - 13, 2005
San Diego Convention Center
San Diego, CA

Registration Fees:
Platinum - $450
Membership Meeting, Tradeshow & Workshops
Gold - $400
Trade Show & Workshops
Silver - $250
Trade Show Only
Banquet - $75
Wednesday, April 13

For more information contact Diane Wyss at 202-548-3812 or DWYSS@INDIANGAMING.ORG.

Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa: March Promotions

Get Away With a Year's Pay
Grand Prize Drawing March 27

We have the easiest way for you to instantly DOUBLE your salary with our Get Away with a Year's Pay promotion! Mark your calendar and come out to Creek Nation Casino every Sunday now through March 20 for our weekly Month's Pay drawings. On March 27, we will give away our grand prize of an entire Year's AND a brand new 2005 Ford Expedition. There are many different ways to qualify Sunday through Thursday; ask the Players Club how you can further your chances to win!

Spring Fling Chrysler Sebring
Mondays, March 7th through May 23, 6pm to 10pm

Spring is fast approaching! Just in time for warm weather driving, Creek Nation Casino's new Ladies Night gives you the chance to drive away in American's trendiest convertible. Back by popular demand, we are continuing with the drawings for fifteen seconds in the money machine. Make sure you grab as much of the flying money as you can, because the two players who come out with the most cash each Monday will get a key that could start up a 2005 Chrysler Sebring convertible on May 23!

Tropical Two for Tuesdays
Tuesdays, 10am - 2pm

Seniors, Tropical Tuesdays are twice as nice with our Two for Tuesdays specials we are offering just to you! The first two seniors (50 or older) who win a jackpot on selected machines will receive double the payout. Lunch is on us with our "Buy One Combo, Get 2nd Combo Free" specials in our food court. Don't forget our hourly cash drawings. One lucky senior each Tuesday will get to choose between $500 in cash and a chance to spin our wheel of cash and fabulous prizes!

Boatloads of Bucks
Wednesdays, March 9 through June 1, 6pm to 10pm

Men, excitement is truly in the air! The ladies are going wild over the money machine drawings, and now you have the opportunity to take on the whirlwind of flying money! Come out to Creek Nation Casino on Wednesday nights to win your shot at fifteen seconds in the money machine. The two players collecting the most cash each Wednesday will receive a key, and on June 1, one lucky winner will float out of here on a 2005 Boat!

Thirsty Thursdays
Thursdays through May 5, 6pm to 10pm

Join us Thursday evenings from 6pm - 10pm as KHITS 106.9 FM, Pepsi and Creek Nation Casino present Thirsty Thursdays. Imagine living it up in Vegas, sitting in front of a new Flat Screen TV or a wallet full of cash! It can happen, but only if you join us for Thirsty Thursdays. Pepsi will provide the beverages, KHITS will provide the tunes and Creek Nation Casino will provide some serious cash. Make sure you are one of the first 106 people in the door each Thursday night to receive your FREE official Thirsty Thursdays T-Shirt, your ticket to cash and fabulous prizes!

NASCAR 2005 Cash for the Cup
Weekly through November 20, 2005

Start your engines and race on in to Creek Nation Casino for the excitement for NASCAR racing! Your shot at over $100,000 in cash and prizes, including two Tony Stewart edition Monte Carlos! Play against Chris Plank from KTBZ 1430 AM for weekly cash prizes, a NASCAR Special Edition Car and a trip to 2006 Daytona 500. Who else is going to reward you for your excellent NASCAR knowledge?

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending December 31, 2004 prepared by the Office of the Controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending December 31, 2004 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditure, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending December 31, 2004. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending December 31, 2004.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of December 31, 2004.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 7931.

GENERAL FUND:	**BUDGETS**	**ENCUMBERED**	**EXPENDED**	**BALANCE**
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	261,208.00	0.00	0.00	261,208.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOP/LAND	179,700.00	200.00	40,273.00	139,227.00
TREASURY	3,223.00	0.00	0.00	3,223.00
ANGEL TREE	0.00	0.00	1,704.00	(1,704.00)
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	34,903.00	34,903.00	0.00	0.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	370,736.00	5,584.00	198,856.00	166,296.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	1,135,184.00	59,627.00	184,690.00	890,867.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	3,151,350.00	153,400.00	729,031.00	2,268,919.00
CONSUMER LOANS	0.00	0.00	3,221.00	(3,221.00)
CREEK NATION BINGO	16,553,742.00	291,426.00	3,224,329.00	13,037,987.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	676,393.00	3,400.00	160,150.00	512,843.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	0.00	0.00	18,541.00	(18,541.00)
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	0.00	150.00	1,156.00	(1,306.00)
HENSSLER ASSET MGMT	0.00	0.00	12,729.00	(12,729.00)
NICWA	356.00	0.00	0.00	356.00
MCN OVERSIGH COMMITTEE	82,069.00	71,168.00	1,000.00	9,901.00
FIRST CAPITAL MGMT PREM	0.00	0.00	23,917.00	(23,917.00)
BANK ONE CONSOLIDATION	0.00	0.00	411.00	(411.00)
TRIBAL BUDGET	537,000.00	3,600.00	66,333.00	467,067.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	1,765,372.00	42,145.00	196,373.00	1,526,854.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND:	**24,751,236.00**	**665,603.00**	**4,862,714.00**	**19,222,919.00**
DEPT. OF LABOR:				
WIA-TITLE I '02	271.00	0.00	271.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE IVA '03	8,083.00	0.00	8,083.00	0.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '03	7,488.00	0.00	7,488.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE IVA '04	525,612.00	865.00	170,671.00	354,076.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '04	333,328.00	681.00	47,601.00	285,046.00
TOTAL DEPT OF LABOR:	**874,782.00**	**1,546.00**	**234,114.00**	**639,122.00**
HOUSING & URBAN DEV:				
HUD-NAHASDA '00	1,480,511.00	0.00	785,915.00	694,596.00
HUD-SAPULPA CLINIC	7,158.00	0.00	7,158.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '01	6,276,463.00	0.00	585,477.00	5,690,986.00
HUD-FOOD DISTRIBUTION	18,837.00	3,235.00	0.00	15,602.00
HUD-NAHASDA '02	12,597,671.00	0.00	2,150,227.00	10,447,444.00
HUD-NAHASDA '03	16,982,182.00	19,009.00	248,064.00	16,715,109.00
TOTAL HUD:	**37,362,822.00**	**22,244.00**	**3,776,841.00**	**33,563,737.00**
DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SVC:				
FAMILY PRESERVATION '03	0.00	0.00	147.19	(147.19)
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '03	164,091.00	22,826.00	34,265.00	107,000.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '03	362,419.00	18,009.00	29,717.00	314,693.00
TITLE IV-B '03	0.00	0.00	(1,013.00)	1,013.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '03	11,999.00	0.00	5,866.00	6,133.00
LIHEAP '04	56,757.00	0.00	0.00	56,757.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '04	175,134.00	8,688.00	60,793.00	105,653.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '04	1,312,486.00	33,976.00	246,507.00	1,032,003.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '04	1,174,011.00	34,561.00	505,950.00	633,500.00
HEAD START '04	821,507.00	363,251.00	425,893.00	32,363.00
TITLE IV-B '04	240,771.00	131.00	62,041.00	178,599.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '04	234,297.00	20,681.00	48,269.00	165,347.00
LIHEAP '05	126,993.00	3,320.00	62,711.00	60,962.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '05	1,413,981.00	0.00	0.00	1,413,981.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '05	2,372,333.00	2,640.00	974.00	2,368,719.00
HEAD START '05	1,058,077.00	6,652.00	126,250.00	925,175.00
TOTAL DHHS:	**9,524,856.00**	**514,735.00**	**1,608,370.19**	**7,401,750.81**
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE:				
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '04	0.00	0.00	(30.00)	30.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '05	0.00	2,690.00	69,773.00	(72,463.00)
TOTAL USDA:	**0.00**	**2,690.00**	**69,743.00**	**(72,433.00)**
PROGRAM INCOME:				
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	0.00	414.00	60.00	(474.00)
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	0.00	5,620.00	25,082.00	(30,702.00)
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	0.00	43,324.00	17,448.00	(60,772.00)
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	0.00	5,063.00	1,437.00	(6,500.00)

please see **QUARTERLY**..., page 16

American Indian livestock feed program

OKMULGEE — Livestock owners on tribal-governed lands may be eligible to receive monetary assistance if they meet the required criteria.

As in the past, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be allowed to request to enter a government-to-government contract for areas meeting the specified loss criteria because of weather or other natural disasters that had a direct effect on the availability of livestock feed on tribal-governed land.

Livestock owners are provided benefits for the actual number of animals that were present on the tribal-governed land during the feeding period in which supplemental feed was provided for the years 2003 through 2004.

For more information, contact Sunny C. Been at (918) 732-7823 or write to: Sunny C. Been, c/o Tribal Development Secretary, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447.

Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma

DURANT — Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma Inc. (REI) has a down payment and closing cost assistance program that may fill a need for tribal members.

REI is a nonprofit economic development organization helping Oklahoma communities to build their capacity, explore their potential and expand their opportunities.

For more information, to obtain a participating lender's list, or to become a participating lender, contact Dena Sherrill at Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. at 1(800) 811-3761 or visit their website at www.ruralenterprises.com.

Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association has temporarily changed location, along with days and hours of operation.

The new address is 3416 South Robinson St. in the Salvation Army Native American Senior Center. The office can be entered from the south side of the building.

The new days and hours of operation are Monday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the phone number remains the same at (405) 605-2621.

Wild Onion Dinner

BIXBY — Concharty United Methodist Church will be having their all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner on March 26 from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The cost for the dinner is $7 for adults and $4 for children 10 & under.

The church is located 4 miles North of Highway 16 on Bixby Road and one mile East on Garfield Road.

For more information, call (918) 366-8450.

Summer Youth accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Summer Youth Program began taking applications March 7 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training Department. If you would like to fill out an application or for more information, call (918) 732-7775.

OSU Free Immunizations

TULSA — Two free childhood immunization clinics are now provided by OSU Physicians and the Rotary Clubs of Tulsa.

The OSU Physicians and Houston Parke Clinic will be held from 1:30 to 4 p.m. each Wednesday, which began on March 9. The clinic was previously held on Fridays. The clinic is located at the corner of 11th street and Houston.

A second free immunization clinic is held each Friday from 1:30 to 4 p.m. at OSU Physicians at 2345 Southwest Boulevard.

A parent or legal guardian must accompany children ages 3 months through 18 years and the child's immunization record is required. One does not have to be an OSU patient to attend the free immunization clinic. No appointment is necessary and a Spanish language interpreter is available.

For more information, contact Karen Wicker at (918) 561-8215.

Wild Onion Dinner

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church will be having their all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner on April 2.

The cost for the dinner is $6 for adults and $3 for children 12 and under.

The church is located from Okemah, East on 62 Hwy. three miles, three miles South, one mile East to a "Y", turn south, signs posted.

Texas Indian Market

ARLINGTON, Tex. — The 16th Annual Texas Indian Market and Southwest Showcase will be held April 1 - 3 at the Arlington Convention Center. The show hours are 4 to 9 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Adult admission is $9 and is good for the entire weekend and includes all shows, performances, and demonstrations. Children under 13 get in free.

The Arlington Convention Center is located adjacent to I-30 at 1200 Ballpark Way and directly beside *Six Flags Over Texas* and *The Ball Park in Arlington.*

Parking at Arlington Convention Center is directly beside the show building. The city of Arlington charges a fee of $4.00 for parking.

The official host hotel for The Texas Festival is the Wyndham Arlington Hotel, which is located directly beside the show building. To contact the hotel, call 1 (800) 442-7275. A special flat rate of $85 a night is available. When making a reservation, you are required to tell them you are with the Texas Indian Market to receive the special rate.

33rd Annual Symposium on the American Indian

TAHLEQUAH — Northeastern State University Center for Tribal Studies is hosting the 33rd Annual Symposium on the American Indian. The theme is, "Indigenous Innovations, Celebrating the Centennial of an Idea: The Great State of Sequoyah and other American Indian Contributions" on April 13 -16.

Guest speakers will include the Great State of Sequoyah Commission and others. For more information, contact the NSU Center for Tribal Studies, 320 Academy St., Tahlequah, OK 74464, or call (918) 456-5511, ext. 4350.

In conjunction with the Symposium, there will be a Powwow held on April 15, from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. and April 16, from 3 p.m. until midnight. The master of ceremonies will be Tony Arkeketa, Head Man Dancer will be Louis Gray, Head Lady Dancer will be Michelle Gray, Head Singer will be George Roy, the Arena Directors are Pat Moore and Walter Buffalomeat, the Host Gourd is the Cherokee Gourd Society and Host Color Guard is the Cherokee Nation Color Guard. The event is cosponsored by NSU Indian Heritage Committee, NSU Alumni Powwow Committee and the Center for Tribal Studies.

Kansas City Indian Market

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — The 14th Annual Kansas City Indian Market and Southwest Showcase will be held on April 15 through 17 at Overland Park International Trade Center. The show hours are four to 9 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Adult admission is $9 and is good for all 3 days, and includes all shows, performances, and demonstrations. Children under 13 get in free.

The Overland Park International Trade Center is located in the heart of Overland Park at 6800 West 115th Street, a few blocks south of loop 435. To contact the trade center call (913) 451-7691.

Parking at the Overland Park International Trade Center is located directly beside the show building.

The official host hotel for the Kansas City Indian Market is the Overland Park Amerisuites, which is a short distance from the show building. It has a special Indian Market rate of $59 a night. When making a reservation, you are required to tell them you are with the Kansas City Indian Market to receive the special rate. For more information, call (913) 415-2553.

1955 Class of Haskell Institute Gathering

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The 1955 Class of Haskell Institute will be celebrating 50 years on May 13 and 14 at Haskell Indian Nations University. Haskell is trying to locate the following: Charles Coleman; Malcolm Tiger; and Pauline Wolfe.

For more information, contact Avis Sorrels Glodek at (760) 757-2619 or by mail at 2317 Nicklaus Dr., Oceanside, CA 92056.

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Case Manager Reintegration Program:

Requirements: A Bachelors Degree in Social. A minimum of four (4) years work experience related to parole supervision or counseling. Incumbent must posses a valid Oklahoma State Driver's license and be insurable.

Coding Specialist - CNCH:

Requirements: To qualify for the GS-4 payscale the incumbent must possess a High School Diploma and one (1) year of relevant experience. To qualify for GS-5 the incumbent should have completed a course of study in coding or three (3) years of coding experience. For GS-6, Certification as a Coding Specialist-Physician based (CCS-P is required). For GS-9, the incumbent should be Certified as a coding specialist (CCS). Incumbent is required to possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

CHS Technician:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. One (1) year relevant experience in medical billing or related field. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Maintenance Technician - Okemah:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of a training or program in carpentry, building/property maintenance, or related field is preferred. One (1) year relevant experience in facility maintenance is required. Relevant professional licenses or certifications related to position are not required but will benefit the incumbent.

Application Procedures:

Submit a current Division employment application form or resume (a transfer request form for current employees). All application materials are to be submitted to the attention of the staffing specialist. For further information call Personnel Services at 918-756-4333 extension 271. The Division is an Equal Opportunity Employer, however, Indian Preference will be applied in the case of equally qualified applicants.

Miscellaneous

Academy for Educational Development

WASHINGTON D.C. — The Academy for Educational Development (AED) is seeking candidates to fill positions for the newly funded American Indian Head Start Training and Technical Assistance Support System Project. The positions available are as follows:

•Early Literacy Specialist to work in the DC area with National American Indian Head Start Training and Technical Assistance system. The website for this job is http://employment.aed.org/openings/grade7/4216-7.html.

•Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Coordinator Specialist to work in the DC area with the National American Indian Head Start/Early Head Start training and technical assistance support system. The website for this job is http://employment.aed.org/openings/grade7/5043-7.html.

•Director to work in the DC area with National American Indian Head Start Training and Technical Assistance system. The website for this job is http://employment.aed.org/openings/grade7/4306-7.html.

If you or someone you know meets the background or expertise, please pass this job announcement information on to them. Minority candidates are strongly encouraged to apply, especially American Indians/Alaskan Natives. Candidates may apply with resume and cover letter to: AED/HR, reference position title, 1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009, fax (202) 884-8413, or e-mail: employ@aed.org.

Personnel

Teacher's Aide 4 Positions

Okmulgee Child Care, Eufaula Child Care and 2 positions at Okemah Child Care:

Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent and prior experience working in a day care/child care center environment. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing. Must possess a valid driver's license.

Deputy Commissioner
Office of Public Gaming:

Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in business or 3-4 years experience in a gaming related field and an Associates degree or an equivalent combination of training and experience. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

Assistant Commissioner
Office of Public Gaming:

Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in business or 3-4 years experience in a gaming related field and an Associates degree or an equivalent combination of training and experience. Must have an understanding of law and government regulations and have the ability to interact with business and tribal officials. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

Compliance Supervisor
Office of Public Gaming:

Qualifications: Associates Degree in accounting with two (2) years experience or seven (7) years experience in accounting. Must be willing to work nights and weekends, be computer literate and ability to travel between tribal gaming facilities. Must possess a valid driver's license and submit to and pass all background and drug tests.

Gaming Compliance Investigator
Office of Public Gaming:

Qualifications: Associates Degree with one (1) year experience in working with criminal or background investigation or a combination of education and experience. Must be knowledgeable of NIGC regulations. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

Accounts Payable Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Finance:

Qualifications: High School Diploma or equivalent. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

Family Preservation Worker
Children & Family Services:

Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in Social Work or a related Behavioral Science. Some experience may be substituted for education. Must have a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

Trade & Commerce

Trade and Commerce is accepting applications for the following:

Travel Plaza - Okmulgee

Travel Plaza - Muskogee

Muscogee Document Imaging

Farm Authority

For more information on employment opportunities at Trade & Commerce please contact Alexis at (918) 732-7764.

These jobs have an Indian Preference.

JOB ADVERTISEMENTS: The MNN is accepting job advertisements to run in the newspaper. If you or your company would like to advertise any openings, please contact call 732-7637 for information on rates or to place your ad.

Creek Language Class

TULSA — The Mvskoke Language Institute will be offering the Creek Language for a one-day language instruction for children in grades first through sixth.

Parents, helpers and community leaders are welcome to attend.

The language classes will be held at the Tulsa Indian Community Center on March 24 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The center is located at 8611 S. Union.

To register call (918) 298-2464.

Native American Indian Flute class available

NORMAN — Classes to learn to play the Native American Flute will begin March 30 at the Jacobson House Native Art Center. The class will have four sessions from 7 to 9 p.m. on consecutive Wednesday nights. Terry Tsotigh will teach a curriculum developed by Dr. Paula Conlon. Practice flutes are available.

To register, call (405) 366-1667.

2005 Art Under the Oaks Indian Market

MUSKOGEE — The Five Civilized Tribes Museum is putting on the "Art Under the Oaks Indian Market" on April 2 and 3 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The Museum is located on Agency Hill in Honor Heights Park. For more information call (918) 683-1701 ext. 4 or toll free at (877) 587-4237.

Benefit Dance

OKEMAH — A benefit stompdance for Cora Mae Wilson will be held April 2 at the Okemah Armory.

The food sale begins at 6 p.m. with the dance starting at 7 p.m. until 12 a.m.

The M.C. will be Roman Hill. There will be grocery baskets, door prizes and cake plates. Please bring your own chairs.

All proceeds will go towards Cora's trip back to Texas for her doctor's visit.

For more information, contact Billy Wilson at 756-7033 or Natalie Bucktrot at 732-7759, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

2nd Annual Mekko's meeting

OKMULGEE — The 2nd Annual Mekko's meeting will be held at the Mound on April 2nd. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Notification for people involved will be sent soon.

Creek Council House Arts Schedule

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House, in collaboration with the Muscogee Creek Nation of Historic and Cultural Preservation, have created classes on pottery, basketry and fingerweaving that began on January 29.

These classes are a continuation series and will include two classes for the Heddle Loom for fingerweaving. There will also be two filled days dedicated to clay processing, cane harvesting and dyes.

The schedule for upcoming classes are as follows: April 2 & 9 – Heddle Loom; April 22, & 23 – Beadwork class; April 30 – Finishing of projects; May 7 – Finishing of projects; May 14 – Finishing of projects; and May 14 thru June 14 – Starting Artist Show

For more information, contact Ted Isham at (918) 756-2324.

Exhibition Stompdance to be performed

ALBUQUERQUE, NM — An exhibition stompdance will be performed by Citizens of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Stompdancers for the first time at the 22nd Annual Gathering of Nations.

The stompdancers will perform on April 30, after the Miss Indian World Crowning, at 9:30 p.m.

All events will take place at the University of New Mexico's "The Pit". The address is Avenida Cesar Chavez Blvd. SE (Hwy. 25, exit #223).

"The Gathering of Nations has never had a Stompdance presentation and it will be so exciting for everyone attending to see," said Melonie Matthews, Gathering of Nations/Miss Indian World Program coordinator. For more information log on to www.gatheringofnations.com.

Creek Council House Museum
Art Contest
$$
STOMPDANCE
RODEO
SPORTS
ELDER/YOUTH
PAGEANT
FESTIVAL
$$
ENTRY DEADLINE
APRIL 15, 2005
COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM
FOR INFO CALL
918-756-2324
WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUTH ORIENTED THEMES
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION'S
31ST ANNUAL FESTIVAL

Prescription Savings Card Program

From the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries and DestinationRx

The United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries has announced that United Methodists can obtain a free prescription savings card through a partnership with DestinationRx, a prescription benefit management company based in Los Angeles. The program was developed after a two-year study by The United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. The savings card is not an insurance product.

The program offers a savings card that allows users to purchase prescriptions and other health care supplies at discounted prices. Most prescription medications are covered in the DestinationRx Prescription Program through its network of participating pharmacies. In addition, DestinationRx provides prescription savings through a toll-free telephone number for maintenance medications and savings through its website on traditional drugs, including pet medications, vitamins/minerals, over-the-counter medications and vision care.

Any member of The United Methodist Church may obtain the card at no membership cost.

The DestinationRx program cannot be used in conjunction with a traditional prescription program. However, the DestinationRx program provides savings to the member for items that may not be part of a traditional prescription program, such as birth control, smoking cessation, cosmetic, fertility products, and anti-obesity medications, etc. In addition, the DestinationRx program assists individuals who have deductibles, maximums and major medical programs.

The local church doesn't have to do anything in order for a member to enroll. All the administration will be performed by DestinationRx.

The best way to obtain your prescription savings card is to sign up on the United Methodist Association website, www.umassociation.org and click on the link to DestinationRx or www.destinationrx.com/save and using the UMA001 Promotional/Group Code. After completing the enrollment form you will be provided the opportunity to print a temporary DestinationRx Savings card to immediately start your savings. After the fifth (5th) prescription is filled, by utilizing your temporary card, a permanent card will automatically be sent to your attention. United Methodists need to obtain a permanent membership ID and prescription card prior to proceeding to the Web site. If you don't have access to the internet you may order your card by phone by calling DestinationRx at 800-379-9040. Indicate that you received the invitation to apply for the card from the United Methodist Association and give the Group Number: UMA001.

The card will be delivered within seven to 10 business days.

One DestinationRx Savings ID card is good for all family members residing at the same address with the same last name.

More than 25,000 pharmacies across the United States are participating, including those at Eckerd's, Kmart and Target stores. For a complete list of participating pharmacies by zip code click on the "Find a Pharmacy" link at www.destinationrx.com.

Savings vary based upon where one obtains medication. However, savings can range from up to 25 percent on brand medications and up to 50 percent on generic drugs. The savings are based on typical pharmacy prices at a retail drugstore. Additional savings may be obtained by utilizing our prescription web vendors or prescription mail order service for maintenance medications (frequently used medications). Walmart Mail Service is our preferred mail order vendor and can be contacted at 1-866-717-5494. You are required to mention that you are a DestinationRx member to maximize your savings.

The DestinationRx card covers most prescription drugs. In addition, on the DestinationRx Web site, the card covers items such as pet prescriptions, contact lenses, over-the-counter medications and vitamins/minerals.

There is no membership cost to United Methodist members.

The program was developed by both the General Board of Global Ministries and the United Methodist Association have been researching ways to help reduce the financial burden of prescription drugs for United Methodist members throughout the United States.

The United Methodist Association based in Dayton, Ohio, is a network of about 400 health and human services organizations. It was founded in 1940 as the Board of Hospitals and Homes of the Methodist Church. The organization is now an independent, not-for-profit corporation, and is identified as a "covenanting body" by the denomination's General Conference.

The Board of Global Ministries, with offices in New York, is the mission agency of the United Methodist Church. The board's health and relief unit worked on arranging the drug-benefit card program for United Methodists following a two-year study.

DestinationRx is a privately owned company based in Los Angeles. It was founded in 1999 as a Web-based aggregator of prescription medications. Jane Ehrman, health consultant for the General Board of Global Ministries, during the two-year study, looked at other providers in the industry and talked to clients of DestinationRx, and determined that the company had a high level of integrity, communications and service.

DestinationRx is providing the benefit and not the United Methodist Church.

To get more information on the DestinationRx Card, you may call DestinationRx at 800-379-9040. You can also contact the United Methodist Association automated telephone line at (937) 415-3624.

Church Events

Church Revival

HAYDONVILLE — Montesoma Baptist Church will have a church revival on March 23 to 27.

The revival will begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly. Speakers will be Norman Daniels, Thursday, Simmon Harjo, Friday, and Charlie Denney, Saturday. Sunday morning services starts at 11 a.m. with Jay Downing bringing the message.

The church is located 19 miles west of Okmulgee on Highway 56 and 1 1/2 miles north or 13 miles northeast of Okemah on Highway 56.

Family Gathering

OKEMAH — High Spring Baptist Church is having a Church Family Gathering on "Easter Weekend", March 25 thru 27, and are inviting past and present members, or descendents to come and join us during this time.

For more information you may contact Kathy Sue Yahola Hamilton at (918) 756-2561, Christine Wind Roberts at (918) 623-2833 or Mary Lee Severs Lee at (918)623-4639.

Osceola Trio tapes and CD's available for purchase

SHAWNEE — The all-Indian singing group, The Osceola Trio, began with 3 freshman in high school at Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kansas, in 1948. Getting together for the school's annual amateur contest, the 3 students, Mithcell Beaver, Jimmy Anderson and J.B. Dreadfulwater, represented the dormitory, which was Osceola Hall. They won the amateur contest and decided to continue singing together.

In their senior year, they auditioned for the Ted Mack Amateur Hour, a national radio program which was being broadcasted from Kansas City, Missouri, and were selected to sing on the national radio program. From Haskell, the Trio entered Bacone Indian Jr. College in Muskogee, Oklahoma where they continued singing. While at Bacone, Jimmy's brother, Richard, joined the group and the Trio became the Osceola Four.

After singing on the Sooner Shindig Show on Channel 4 in Oklahoma City for two years and the death of bass singer, Mitchell Beaver in 1958 the Trio broke up.

In the late 70's, the Trio again began singing at revivals and crusades. They went on a mission team - preaching, witnessing and singing to Indians and Eskimos of Anchorage, Alaska. The group now sings totally for the Lord.

The Osceola Trio has recorded 4 cassette tapes and CD's of their singing. A fifth album has been recorded and in the process of being completed. Their decision is that sales of their tapes go into the National Indian Mission Fund which is designated to help Indian mission teams take the Gospel to Native Americans.

To order, please write to: National Indian Mission Fund, 403 North Washington, Shawnee, Oklahoma, 74801. Please include payment by check or money order and title or titles of tapes or CD's. The title of the tapes are: Pleading In Glory; Sing Till He Calls; 50th Year; Let God Abide; and He Reached Down His Hand For Me. The cassettes sell for: one for $8; two for $15; three for $22 and four for $29. CD's sell for $15 each. When ordering, please include $2 for handling and mailing charges.

Moore

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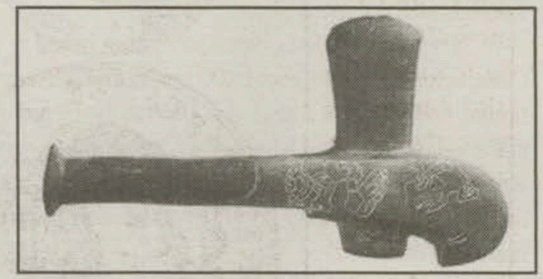
The wooden handle was often attached to the stone head by steaming and bending a thinly shaved handle center around the stone then securing both handle sides with rawhide straps. Rawhide was applied while wet and as the rawhide dried the resulting shrinkage held the stone head firmly in place.



War clubs were also constructed entirely of wood. Native American soldiers used the hardest wood available and carved a weapon that was very effective in combat. Many of these clubs were shaped like a spatula and had sharpened edges. A wooden war club constructed in this manner could also be used as a paddle when the warrior traveled over water.

The southeastern Native American used war clubs of basically four styles carved from hard wood. These clubs were made in the form of a sword, ball head, pick axe or gunstock.

The pick axe style often had a flint or copper blade affixed to the head to improve its combat efficiency.

The sword probably was copied from a weapon used by the Aztecs of Central America. Swords were extensively used by Muskogee (Creek) soldiers. Many sword clubs were edged with flint or shark teeth and usually were about two feet in length.

Ball headed clubs were specially made out of ironwood tree knots found along a river or stream bank because the natural curve of the tree formed a handle. These clubs were very heavy and were carved from a single piece of material with an overall length of at least two feet. Many of these clubs were decorated with the form of an eagle's claw holding the ball, sometimes the ball was carved to resemble a human skull, others were often carved to resemble various birds, wildcats and horned snakes. The handle often had crosses and rings etched in it that may have been the owners method of keeping track of battles he had survived and enemies he had dispatched.

The wooden ball head club was called "tumnahecan" by the Mahicans, a word that eventually evolved into "tomahach" and finally "tomahawk". This weapon was widely used not only in combat but in ceremonies. When a tribal council was discussing war a tomahawk painted red was placed in the center of the council chambers.

Early European settlers were impressed with this offensive weapon and many colonial frontiersmen themselves adopted the tomahawk as their weapon of choice when engaging in close quarter hand to hand combat.

Native Americans also smoked tobacco using a tomahawk carved out of soft stone with the pipe carved of ash.

Europeans named one of these war clubs the gunstock club because the weapon resembled a gunstock. These war clubs were wide spread and very popular in the eastern woodlands. The gunstock differed from the sword club in shape and was a very formidable weapon in the hands of a skilled hand to hand fighter. It too had a wrist strop for loss prevention while in combat or to allow the weapon to dangle while in the performance of ceremonial rituals.

Council

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• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-011, authorizing a special appropriation for the purchase of two passenger vehicles for the senior services program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-012, authorizing the appropriation of funds to create the expenditure by the office of environmental services for the new assistance agreement concerning the Clean Water Act, section 106, grant number I-976643-01-0;

• approved (22-1-0) NCA 05-013 amending Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code annotated title 37, § 1-102, regarding the manufacture and sale of flags;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **K. Johnson** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 05-014, appropriating funds for the incidental costs associated with accepting a deed for a tract of property in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by the Checotah Indian Community;

• approved (20-3-0) NCA 05-016, amending MCNCA Title 26, § 5-102 entitled "District Court Judge" to change the compensation of the District Judge;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Golden**, Okfuskee; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-017, authorizing a special appropriation to the "For the Love of the Game" board for the 2005 All Indian March Madness Tournament;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-018, appropriating a Title IV. B SUBPART 2 ("Promoting Safe and Stable Families") Grant Match for Children and Family Services administration and appropriating funds for the expenditure;

• tabled (14-9-0) NCA 05-020, amending NCA 04-131 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending Title 16, Chapter Four of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and amending and repealing certain laws to reorganize the existing structure of Lighthorse Police);

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 05-021, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen;

• approved (17-6-0) NCA 05-022, appropriating funds to provide stipends, mileage, and reimbursement for out of town travel expenses for the 2 (two) tribal citizens who the National Council approved by tribal resolution to help comprise the tobacco compact negotiating team;

voting no were: **Notaro**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Quiett**, Tulsa.;

February 3, Special session

Absent were: **Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Hufft**, Tulsa;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved (12-11-0) TR 05-026, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a tribal gaming compact between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the State of Oklahoma for class III games;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Harjo**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

• approved (17-6-0) NCA 05-001, appropriating funds necessary to enter into a tribal gaming compact between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the State of Oklahoma for class III games;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

representatives **Chalakee**; **Cleghorn**; **Golden**; **Tiger** and **Watson** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

Parish and **Williams** were excused.

• approved to kill (16-0-0) TR 05-017, authorizing the Principal Chief to prepare and submit an application for a pre disaster mitigation grant - competitive and approve an agreement with Brake & Associates for development of a hazard mitigation plan

National Congress of American Indian 2005 Executive Council Winter session

WASHINGTON, DC — The National Congress of American Indians held their 2005 Executive Council Winter Session February 28 - March 2, 2005. The theme was "Empowering our Traditions Through Knowledge."

The sessions started on February 27 with welcoming remarks from President Tex Hall and President Joe Shirley, Co-Chairs. The topics covered were Tribal Sovereignty Protection Meeting Homeland Security legislation, VAWA Legislation and Jurisdiction fix, Judicial nominations, Supreme court project and state streamlines sales.

On February 28, the topics discussed were a brief overview of the new Indian land consolidation act, Purpose: Public law 108-374, was signed into law by the President on October 27, 2004. This legislation provides significant opportunities to tribal governments to recover land and prevent allotted land from going out of trust status. In addition the statute regulates the probate of allotted land to prevent further fractionation. Tribal governments and tribal realty managers should be aware of the new law and should be aware of the new laws and should consider making plans to take advantage of the new opportunities. There will also be a substantial need for coordination with the Department of Interior - this meeting is intended to start some dialogue on that coordination. Speakers included: John Gossett, General Council, NCAI; Arch Wells, Director, BIA Office of Trust Services; and Robin Jaeger, Director, BIA Land Consolidation project.

Federal recognition Task Force was established to address the interest of all tribes, both federally and non-federally recognized, in any recommended changes in policies, procedures or strategic plans in the tribal acknowledgment process.

The purpose of this meetings is to review recent administrative and legislative developments, as well as discuss the position of the NCAI and the task force in relation to proposed reforms to the federal recognition process. Jacqueline Johnson and task force chairs: Rosemary Cambra, Chair, Muwelma Ohloe Tribe, CA and James Cunha, Eastern Pequot, CT, were in attendance.

Effective previous meeting were overviews and summarized. Congressional advocacy workshops were held to allow tribal leaders an opportunity to learn how to effectively advocate for their issues on Capitol Hill. It gave specifics on how to reach their Senator or Congressman. U.S. Department of Human and Health Services initiated a study to identify barriers to AI/AN/NA access to DHHS grant programs and to consider strategies to increase the number of AI/AN/AN tribes and tribal organization that apply for and are awarded DHHS grants. This provided tribal representatives the opportunity to provide input to the DHHS study. Guest speakers were: Carla Anne Heart, Executive Director, Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairman's Health Board; Alana Landey and Peggy Halpern, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services; and Kathy Langwell, Westat.

Also covered were: telecommunications working group; Organizational structure of the Native Networking coalition; partnerships; participating tribes and organizations; reviewing missions, goals, objectives, roles and activities; developing policy platform and strategy for the rewrite of the 1996 Telecommunications Act; defining and affirm policy goals and strategies; develop a rationale to support policy goals and strategies; develop a draft of Tribal provisions to be included in the next Telecommunications Act; preparation for meeting with FCC Commissioners and bureau chiefs; discussed agendas and issues; and relevant background information pertaining to the commissioners and bureau chiefs, as well as defined and review strategies.

Logan Kelier of Government Accounting Office on FCC tribal bidding credit program said the extent of this program been useful in attracting wireless service providers to tribal lands. The current program helps with credit level, builds requirements, etc. to attract wireless service to tribal lands.

Transportation provided great opportunities to improve funding and programs for tribal transportation. This opportunity will not happen for another six years. This was a chance for tribal leaders to here the latest update on the tribal transportation language and discuss strategy for making the bill pass Congress.

White House conference on Aging meeting provided tribal leaders with an opportunity to discuss the delegate selection, option of holding and NCAI WHCOA event and elder issues of concern to them. The meeting was facilitated by James DelaCruz, President, National Council on Aging.

Last, the NCAI taxation workgroup President's Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform and State Streamline Sales Tax. Other events listed was the Indian Water Rights Congressional briefing, Women's Tribal Leader Luncheon and Violence against Women working group. The American Indian Visionary Award Ceremony honoring Vine Deloria, Jr., was hosted by Indian Country Today at the National Press Club.

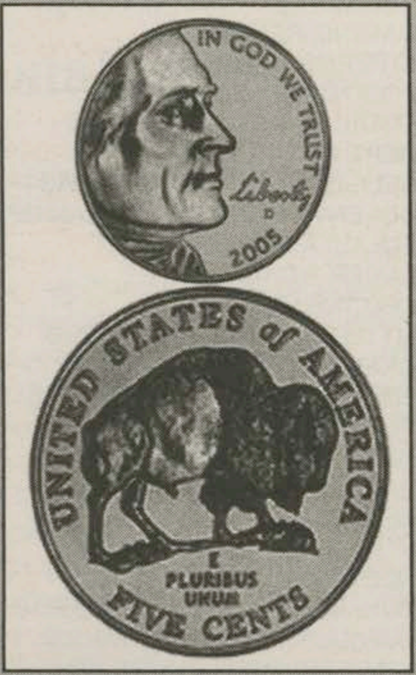
NCAI is also supporting relief efforts for Tsunami survivors and is urging support from tribal governments to join other world governments in providing economic aid, prayers and other spiritual support for the relief effort. NCAI is working with international organizations and federal agencies to coordinate the recognition of Indian Country's relief efforts. Many tribal governments, organizations and individual Native people have responded in the form of volunteer services and financial support.

The NCAI website www.ncai.org will share information about Indian country's contribution and some of the organizations accepting donations. One of the local organizations that are accepting donations for the Tsunami victims is: Feed the Children, P. O. Box 36, Oklahoma City, OK 73101; (405) 942.0228; or visit their website at: www.feedthechildren.com.

U.S. Mint unveils new Bison nickel

WASHINGTON — Amid the drama of drumming, singing and dancing and in the presence of the revered American Bison, U.S. Mint Director Henrietta Holsman Fore presented the new 2005 Bison nickel to the American people in a Capitol Hill ceremony.

"The 2005 American Bison nickel marks the first time the image of President Jefferson has ever changed on the nickel," said Fore. She also added that Cody is a beautiful, strong, classic American Bison.



2005 American Bison Nickel

As the new nickels went into circulation on February 28, the coins show an image of President Thomas Jefferson on the obverse and an American Bison on the reverse.

The American Bison is the third design is the United States Westward journey Nickel Series, which began with the Peace Medal nickel, followed by the Keelboat nickel, in 2004. On February 28, 2005 Americans began ordering bags and rolls of the American Bison nickels on-line at www.usmint.gov.

Quarterly

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COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	0.00	0.00	1,595.00	(1,595.00)
GAMING REVOLVING	0.00	11,297.00	4,963.00	(16,260.00)
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	0.00	0.00	4,397.00	(4,397.00)
FOOD DISTRIBUTION	0.00	0.00	891.00	(891.00)
TOTAL PROGRAM INCOME:	**0.00**	**65,718.00**	**55,873.00**	**(121,591.00)**
DEPT OF INTERIOR:				
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	9,965,532.00	195,553.00	912,527.00	8,857,452.00
DOI-ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP	7,576.00	0.00	0.00	7,576.00
EUFAULA DORMITORY '01	48,063.00	48,063.00	0.00	0.00
LAMAR ROAD	33.00	0.00	33.00	0.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	64,298.00	0.00	21,449.00	42,849.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	51,715.00	20,066.00	12,040.00	19,609.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	29,008.00	0.00	226.00	28,782.00
PORTER ROAD	12,693.00	0.00	6,471.00	6,222.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	18,321.00	0.00	6,027.00	12,294.00
SALEM ROAD	78,852.00	2,451.00	131.00	76,270.00
SKELLY/HASKELL	23,935.00	23,387.00	0.00	548.00
METHODIST CHURCH ROAD	2,621.00	0.00	2,621.00	0.00
HECTORVILLE ROAD	1,253,102.00	98,952.00	6,731.00	1,147,419.00
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	192,532.00	192,277.00	(89.00)	344.00
EUFAULA DORMITORY '02	265,657.00	37,230.00	2,031.00	226,396.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '03	6,494.00	0.00	2,207.00	4,287.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '03	10,138.00	0.00	9,762.00	376.00
EUFAULA DORM '03	717,365.00	100,016.00	281,277.00	336,072.00
OAKDALE SCHOOL BUILDING	0.00	0.00	(8.00)	8.00
CALVIN NORTH ROAD	1,453,458.00	1,443,472.00	497.00	9,489.00
STIDHAM ROAD	1,194.00	0.00	0.00	1,194.00
ARBEKA ROAD	1,168,143.00	1,018,829.00	138,946.00	10,368.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '04	12,412.00	0.00	4,423.00	7,989.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '04	447,081.00	17,066.00	293,093.00	136,922.00
EUFAULA DORMITORY '04	989,323.00	0.00	6,191.00	983,132.00
TITLE PLANT	25,474.00	269.00	7,674.00	17,531.00
AID TO TRIBAL GOVERNMENT	25,000.00	24,834.00	0.00	166.00
BIA BUILDING	44,865.00	16,806.00	28,059.00	0.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	2,657,238.00	163,274.00	362,145.00	2,131,819.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	0.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	39,304.00	0.00	11,427.00	27,877.00
TOTAL DEPT OF INTERIOR:	**19,636,427.00**	**3,422,545.00**	**2,115,891.00**	**14,097,991.00**
DEPT OF JUSTICE:				
STOP VIOLENCE '05	152,076.00	66.00	17,359.00	134,651.00
TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM	260,000.00	0.00	2,900.00	257,100.00
TOTAL DEPT OF JUSTICE:	**412,076.00**	**66.00**	**20,259.00**	**391,751.00**
CAPITAL PROJECT:				
HEAD START BUILDING	1,012,512.00	0.00	0.00	1,012,512.00
TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECT:	**1,012,512.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**1,012,512.00**
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:				
GAP	188,225.00	24,257.00	12,658.00	151,310.00
TOTAL EPA:	**188,225.00**	**24,257.00**	**12,658.00**	**151,310.00**
ENTERPRISE FUND:				
MUSKOGEE OFFICE BLDG	206,000.00	27,113.00	98,968.00	79,919.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOP/LAND	701,008.00	928.00	120,481.00	579,599.00
COWETA CLINIC	1,641,831.00	1,425,622.00	17,909.00	198,300.00
IHS OFFICE BUILDING	28,357.00	0.00	529.00	27,828.00
INDUSTRIAL PARK	725,804.00	0.00	0.00	725,804.00
ROAD EQUIPMENT POOL	344,308.00	49,780.00	9,440.00	285,088.00
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND:	**3,647,308.00**	**1,503,443.00**	**247,327.00**	**1,896,538.00**
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND:				
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	812,324.00	54,271.00	142,427.00	615,626.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,091,893.00	40,602.00	165,610.00	885,681.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	113,348.00	0.00	56,592.00	56,756.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	36,175.00	5,336.00	7,303.00	23,536.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	0.00	0.00	773,681.00	(773,681.00)
TOTAL INTERNAL SERVICE FUND:	2,053,740.00	100,209.00	1,145,613.00	807,918.00
TOTALS	**99,463,984.00**	**6,323,056.00**	**14,149,403.19**	**78,991,524.81**

MNBE completes Tribal funded project for Creek elder

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Construction Services signed a contract on Feb. 1 to renovate the home of former Okmulgee District National Council Representative David Lewis and the work was completed by the end of the month.

The funds for the project were appropriated by the National Council through a tribal ordinance sponsored by Wagoner County District Representative, Barbara Gillespie. Lewis needed space in his home to allow a physical therapist to come and provide physical therapy. With limited space that was not possible.

"The scope of the work involved enclosing the carport and making it into a 12' x 25' room that Lewis could use for physical therapy," said Steve Bighorse, Construction Services Manager. According to Woody Anderson, Sales Manager for MNBE, the Construction Services Group received high praises from Lewis and his wife for their effort and quality of work. "I want to commend Steve Bighorse, Justin Barnett, Glen Brown, Asi Yahola, Stanley McIntosh, Darrel Smith, Tyrone Barnett, Raymond Barnett and Mark Watashe for a job well done," said Michael Nalley, Director of MNBE.

Pictured above is the finished addition to the house of David Lewis.

MNBE also added additional touches to the home to help Lewis and his family. There was nothing in the scope of work to add a carport, so MNBE added a 12' x 25' carport and access to the front of the Lewis home with a new concrete sidewalk from his front door to the driveway providing easier access in and out of the home with his wheelchair.

"MNBE has been involved in several projects where tribal members needed help and I can tell you there is no greater satisfaction than helping people in need, to see the expression on their faces and to feel the impact it has on their lives," said Anderson.

"MNBE is grateful to Mrs. Gillespie and the National Council for allowing us to perform the work for Lewis and we hope we can be involved in more projects like this in the future," said Nalley. "We have a great crew of guys who take a lot of pride in their work and they take special pride in doing work for our tribal members."

Creek Nation Women's Summit

OKMULGEE — The women's summit was inspired by the Women's Summit hosted by the Oklahoma State Capital last year. The purpose of the Creek Nation Women's Summit was to inspire women to affect sound business/career challenges with a sense of empowerment.

The summit was held March 8th and invited a few women from various occupations to share their career experiences and how it got them where they are today. This is not to say that women with a strong business sense are not in Creek country. However, it is always helpful to be reminded we are not alone in our endeavors and there are others out there at the end of each finish line celebrating our accomplishments.

Pictured above, from left to right, are Gail and Sandra Ellis, Susan Savage, Cherokee Hicks.

The success of the summit was accomplished by the efforts of the volunteers, the donators of time and money, the speakers, the multitude of participants, and, with great appreciation, the support of the Creek Nation Principal Chief, A. D. Ellis and his administration.

Trade and Commerce Employee Selected to Participate in Prestigious Program

OKMULGEE — Laura Wesley, who is employed at the Creek Nation Trade and Commerce Authority, has been selected to participate in the Building a High-Performance Business program for minority business enterprises.

Wesley was selected for the program by nomination from the Oklahoma Statewide Native American Business Development Center and successfully matched the specific criteria that was needed in order to meet the Minority Business Development Agency's strategic growth initiative.

The program is a strategic business education program designed to put a firm on a high-growth trajectory. Wesley will be attending the program with other successful entrepreneurs representing a vast variety of different industries from across the United States.

The program was designed exclusively for MBEs by the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth through a collaborative partnership with the Minority Business Development Agency. The program will be held on the campus of the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College which is located in Hanover, New Hampshire. The program will begin Sunday, April 3 through Friday, April 8.

Congratulations to Laura Wesley for an outstanding job and for a being a superb representation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Native American Job Fair Successful Event for Creek Nation

TULSA — The Native American Times newspaper and the Native American Employment and Training Center joined forces to co-host the Native American Job Fair 2005 at the Tulsa Sheraton Hotel on February 25th.

The event was extremely successful with over 1000 people in attendance. The event was designed to allow Native Americans the chance to be exposed to the different employment opportunities that are available in the job market.

"The event was extremely successful. By the end of the day we had over 500 resumes," stated Alexis Crosley, Trade and Commerce Human Resource Coordinator. "We gave out bottled water, pens, bags and had plenty of information about the different resources available to people not only through our department, but also throughout Creek Nation."

Larry Grounds, Personnel Staffing Coordinator, stated "The event was extremely beneficial. There were a variety a businesses represented. They ranged from the Secret Service to the FBI and CIA."

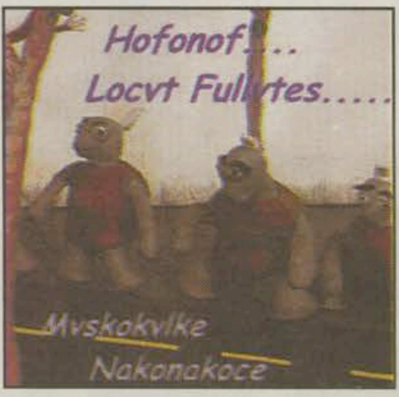
The mission of the job fair was to create an opportunity for Indian Country to meet up with quality companies for job opportunities.

"I believe the mission was completely fulfilled," stated Crosley. "Not only was Creek Nation well represented but the overall feeling of providing a service to our Native people was overwhelming."

Animation at Creek Council House

OKMULGEE — Blackgum Mountain Productions is a Native American owned company whose mission is to advance the language of Native American peoples.

They have just released their newest DVD, Creek stories by Creek Students. On the DVD there are six animated Muscogee (Creek) traditional stories. These stories are favorites from our past, such as *How Night and Day Came To Be*, *How Come the Rabbit Has a Short Tail,* and others.


Hofonof!...
Locvt Fullvtes.....
Mvskokvlke
Nakonakoce

"These stories are truly a cultural treasure, to be able to hear them told in the Creek language is just fantastic," says Ted Isham, Curator of the Creek Council House Museum. "They will be invaluable for the upcoming generations of Creek citizens."

The stories, animation and voices are the work of Creek students at the Ryal, Hanna, Morris and Dustin schools. The students make use of the newest digital technology. Video educational DVD's can be purchased at the Red Stick Gallery inside the Creek Council House Museum. For further information, contact Ted Isham at (918) 756-2324.

Language Workshop to be held

ALBUQUERQUE — Native Language Preservation Workshop will be held at the Wyndham Albuquerque Hotel at International Support on April 25-28, 2005.

This workshop will focus on the process of beginning and building language speaking competency. Following this workshop, participants can take this process back to their local programs, schools, bands and tribes to establish language-based curriculum teams. Teams should be developed in a way to allow it to permeate into the classroom throughout the school year.

These teams should also strive to incorporate cultural themes into the daily environment. As children learn the language of their culture, they also learn its values, beliefs, perceptions, and norms. Understanding this relationship between language and culture offers the most compelling reason to preserve native languages.

In this workshop participants will develop language outlines to help ensure the continued existence and vitality of Native Americans language. Each participants will receive language templates to use as guides for developing a systematic language learning process that will help learners to move toward a language speaking competency.

Participants will receive 3.2 hours of continuing Education Units will be recorded by the University of Oklahoma. All registrants are encouraged to bring one elder to the workshop as an Elder's Guest registration, all paying registrants are welcome to bring one elder (65+) only. The Elder's registration will be waived.

The college and University provide a range of special services for person with disabilities.

Those who register early for both the conference and hotel by March 25, may be eligible for a drawing for free conference lodging. You may register on-line, or if you need additional information, visit their website at: www.ou.edu./aii.

Locv Hvrpe En Heckvte

Oketv hvmken Wotkot coko puricet arvtes. Momen coko en hvteceskv erorat, hopuetake en tvlkakoset vpoket omen, "nak'ceckete" maket empohakof, "Sokhvhatkah" makaken "mvn moman ontos, mv ekvn hvlwen hat-ha-a-kit vlikiht vcemikit vlakit omis," Wotkot makof, puhvnhicetoks komakit mv hopeutaket hvkahecvtes.

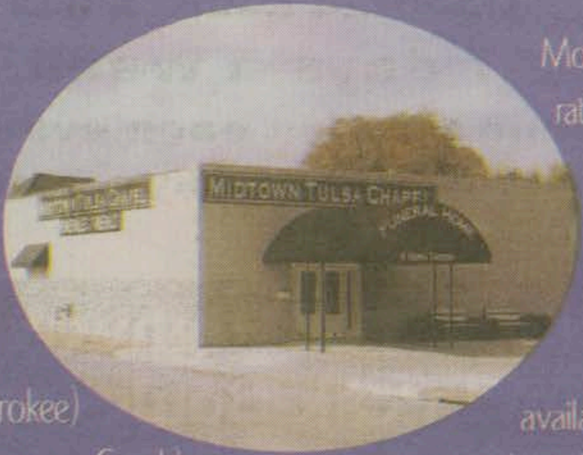
Momen Wotko coko etvn erorof, mou hopuetake tvlkoset vpokvteton, Wotkot okat, ""nak'ceckete," makempohaken, "konoh," makakeen, "mvn moman ontos, mv ekvn hvlwen kono-ko-o-kit vlikiht vcemikit vlakit omis," makof, mv hopuetake mou puhnvnhicetoks komakit hvkahicvtes.

Wokot, hvtvm coko etvn mvn, momet omisekv, hopuetake en tvlkoset vpoken eroret omit, "nak'ceckete" maket vpohof, "Wotkoh," kicet monvyaken, Wotkot okat, "mvn moman ontos, mv okvn hviwen Wot-wo-o-kit vlikit vcemikit vlakit omis," makof, mv Wotkot puhnvnhicetoks komakit hvkahecvtes. Momen Wotko ayepat, hvtcocen erohrit, uewv ofvn akceyiyit ayepvtes.

Momet hopuetake eckvlke omvlkvt resyicvtes, momen en hopuetake hvahecvteton hecakof, cvpvkhoh'ket, vtapvn sehopakvkeh'pet mv hopuetake hvkihhuece aran hopoyakvtes.

Momen hvtcoce vfopken eroricof, Locvt teo lvtcen ohlikepen hecaket omet, mvn empohakvtes, "cemet pun hopoetake ehvnhicetskihsah, "kicet empohakof, Locv okat, "momekotos," makepen, mv hoktvlvke vpeyepof, hvtvm ervkerricat, seyoh'hacecetvn vpeyepof "Ehenh, vnit oh'mis," mahkit uewvn aktaske hayan, enokwvn sokcoce sevtvret omat ehosehpvtetot, mv sokcv eswvnkocet eto lvtcocen emvtvkhahken, estonko tat 'stemvtarken, mv hoktvlvkit etempvlkakit, vtapvn omvket, esrokafakit, Locv hvrpen en wokocahkit, vpeyepvtes.

Locv tat, mv vtarkvte atvkwihkit apeyeppohn, ehvrpe en wokochkepen, estemerket likof, tvkoca sulket fullepvtetot, "estonhkos, cemvnihceyvres," Locvn kicakvtes,momen Locv hvıpen vtelohyet, esyvhikakoset vtotkvket, Locv hvrpe omvlkvn setemvlokpihcakvtes, momen oketv hiyome estomis, Locv hvrpe estvmvn wokochkvte, kerkoset omes.



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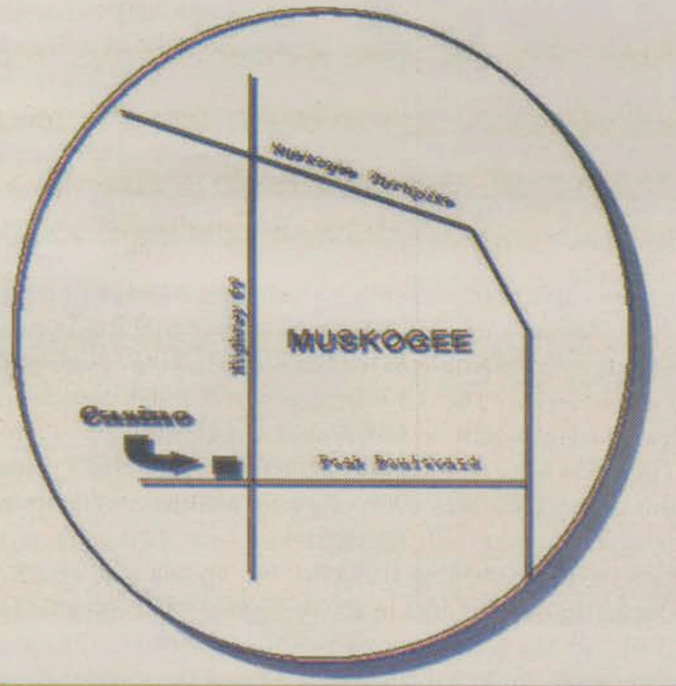
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Spotlight

"The idea came from the two of us at the time we were both college students. We discovered just how much students wanted to see Indian athletics in the main stream."

Creek and Yuchi writers getting the word out

by Gerald Wofford

LAWRENCE, Kan. — They say Indians are giving people, often willing to help in anyway possible. The aid may even come in a verbal manner, getting the word out and making sure the right people are getting the right attention.

John Harjo and Brent Cahwee are speakers who help Indian athletes through the written and electronic word. In October of the year 2000, the two gentlemen created NDNSPORTS.com, a web-page dedicated solely to Indian athletes and related sporting events. The page covers all athletes and sports on the independent, scholastic, college and professional level.

Harjo, who is Creek, Seminole, and Sho-Pai and Cahwee, who is Yuchi and Pawnee wanted to make sure the American Indian athlete was getting the proper attention. "We felt that Native American mainstream presses weren't paying attention to the many great athletes that we have competing right now," said Harjo. "We initially focused on college and professional athletes because it is a great accomplishment to compete at those levels. We have since begun covering high school Native American athletes and hope to expand into those areas even more."

And it certainly looks as though Harjo and Cahwee are doing just that. Pay a visit to the unique site and you will find just about any sporting news you want to know about Indian athletes nationally. Of articles one will find include stories such as Haskell Indian Nations University athletic recruiting day, a successful Sioux wrestler and the Lapwai Lady Wildcats Basketball team, to name a few.

NDNSPORTS

#1 Source for Native American Sports News & Profiles!

"The idea came from the two of us at the time we were both college students," said Harjo. Cahwee and Harjo met at Haskell and discovered just how much they (students) wanted to see Indian athletics into the mainstream. "He (Brent) would come back to Lawrence and talked me into trying to do websites," said Harjo, and getting more interested in computers and internet dealings.

With modern technology making sporting news available by practically just a touch of a button, such information outlets as ESPN and FOX-SPORTS have certainly benefited. Harjo and Cawhee have simply taken the same course. The decision has worked out tremendously for them. But then came the decision on what to name the site.

"Initially we wanted Indiansports.com, but it was taken by a bunch of cricket players in India," laughs Harjo. "The way I remember it I said well, lets do NDNSPORTS. We fought about it for five minutes or so. The way he'll (Brent) remember it is that he said lets do NDNSPORTS and then we fought for five minutes or so." Whoever came up with the actual name is yet to be determined, but Harjo is quick to give out proper credit to his partner. "I didn't know anything about anything to do with designing, web programming, html or anything. Brent showed me all that."

But unlike the major sports news entities, NDNSPORTS does not garner any monetary benefits. "Get a pen and paper ready to write this down," admits Harjo. "We make ZERO dollars off of NDNSPORTS.com. We have yet to make any money because the initial idea wasn't to make money, the idea was to promote Native American athletes. Would we like to make money? Sure, but who wouldn't. We will continue to work on NDNSPORTS.com even though we have to pay for all of the web hosting charges ourselves."

Cahwee and Harjo are also trying other business venues such as creating their own web design business called www.redsticks.com for small businesses.

Harjo and Cawhee aren't just about getting the word out of Indian athletes, but have also created a Native American All-Star Football Game. The event, which was created in 2002 with the help of OKSCOUTING, consists of High School seniors, who are enrolled members of a federally or state recognized tribe, looking for exposure so they may continue their football careers at the collegiate level. The game continues to grow each year, something Harjo and Cahwee have wanted all along.

"The Native American All-Star Football game continues to be a place for Indian Country's best athletes to prove they belong on the gridiron at the college level," says Harjo. "The All-Star game is played every summer at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas.

The game has certainly had some Creek flavor to it with many Creek players from around the area competing as well as former Principal Chief Perry Beaver agreeing to coach the East last year. Unfortunately health problems kept Beaver from coaching that year, but he hopes to coach this year.

Currently Brent works in the computer department at Haskell and John is employed with the forest service as a firefighter out of Logan, Utah. Occasionally John comes to the Oklahoma and helps the Creek Nation Firefighters and even teaches classes.

Harjo and Cawhee will continue to make NDNSPORTS a convenient and welcomed site for Native American fans. Their next project will involve video, but they are making sure the project is closely kept under wraps, for now.

"Black Cloud" the movie set to premiere in Tulsa on April 15

TULSA — "Black Cloud," is the visually moving story of a talented young boxer who discovers his place within the boxing ring and world around him.

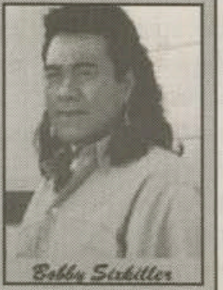
Spears

The film, written and directed by longtime actor Rick Schroder, stars Eddie Spears, in the title role, Russell Means, Julia Jones, Tim McGraw, Peter Greene, Wayne Knight, Tim Sampson, Branscombe Richmond and "Pooch" Marion Hall.

Black Cloud (Eddie Spears) is a spirited young boxer who backs down from no man. When Eddie Young (Rick Schroder), a gritty rodeo circuit cowboy, tries to reclaim the beautiful Sammi Haskie (Julia Jones), with whom he has a son, Black Cloud intervenes. A fight ensues and Black Cloud savagely beats Eddie, Sheriff Powers (Tim McGraw) comes after Black Cloud but is blocked by Bud (Russell Means), Black Cloud's mentor and seasoned boxing coach.

The Sheriff and his deputies cruise the boundaries of the reservation and bide their time. Meanwhile, Olympic boxing scout, Norm Olsen, (Peter Greene), who had witnessed Black Cloud destroying opponents in a Golden Gloves Boxing tournament, offers the fighter an opportunity to fight his way on to the Olympic Boxing Team. Black Cloud defiantly declines, willing to fight only his homeland, the Navajo Nation.

The film first premiered in September 2004 but was released only in select theatres. Oklahoma City was fortunate to have the movie come to their theatres but Tulsa was not. Due to number of requests and the size of the American Indian population in the Tulsa region, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department has been successful in securing a theatre and will be showing the movie on April 15 at the Eastland Mall Cinema located at 14002 E 21st Street # 179.


Bobby Sixkiller

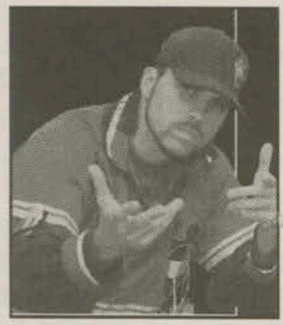
The "Black Cloud" premiere is set to begin 7 p.m. with a dinner to follow with a meet and greet with the stars. Tentative to appear for the Tulsa showing are main actor Eddie Spears and Branscombe Richmond. The price for the event is $15 per adult and $10 per student. The dinner will begin immediately following the movie allowing the actors time to sign autographs and answer any questions the audience may have. If you would like to purchase a ticket for the movie only, you may do so at the ticket window of the cinema.

For more information and/or to purchase tickets, contact Gerald Wofford or Sara Gibson at (918) 732-7637. The event is open to the public.

Shadowyze: Tireless Warrior

Shawn Enfinger, known as Shadowyze, was born in San Antonio, Texas and raised in Pensacola, Florida. He has been rapping as Shadowyze since the late 1980's.

Drawing from the richness of his Creek Indian, Irish and Swedish heritage, Shadowyze brings his message to a wide and diverse audience. He has opened for such national acts as Ice-T, Digital Underground and Queen Latifah.



In 1998, a trip to Mexico inspired the breakthrough solo CD, *Murder in Our Backyard,* about the Mexican Military's brutal killings of Maya Indians in Southern Mexico. The CD gained exposure in several national publications, such as *Native Peoples*, *Word Up!* rap magazine and Harvard University's Anthropology journal, *Cultural Survival Quarterly*. The album was also nominated for the Native American Music Awards in the Best Rap category.

In 2000, Shadowyze signed to the Grammy winning Native American (Indian) owned SOAR Records based in Albuquerque, New Mexico and released his second album, *Spirit Warrior*.

World of Illusions is Shawn's first CD on Back Bone Records. The latest album continues to shine a light on important issues that others might choose to ignore. For more information on bookings, press or upcoming releases log on to www.shadowyze.com.

Tulsa City-County Library honors contributions of American Indians

TULSA — Tulsa City-County Library will present the American Indian Festival of Words, a month-long celebration honoring the sacrifice and struggle of American Indians. Family programs will range from traditional dances with audience participation to storytelling and a special author visit.

The celebration began on March 5th with the American Indian Festival of Words Author Award. The award was given to Leslie Marmon Silko, a renowned novelist, poet and essayist.

On March 8th, there was the Tvstvnvke Singers and Exhibition Stomp Dance. The Tvstvnvke Singers are students from Glenpool Public Schools that performed stories, dances and songs of their people.

The All Nations Indian Youth American Indian Dancing performed on March 12th. The All Nations Indian Youth is a group of intertribal dancers that performed a variety of traditional American Indian dances representing their different tribes.

Storytelling by Mahenwahdose was performed on March 15th. Will Hill and Jehnean Washington shared stories, which they presented at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

Steven Woods, Native American Studies instructor at Tulsa Community College, discussed old time radio show and the American Indian on March 17th.

Creek Tales: Puppetry Workshop will be performed March 21st at Charles Page Library. The Library is located at 551 E. Fourth St. in Sand Springs. The times for the workshops are: ages 5-7, 10 until 11 a.m.; ages 8-10, 11:15 a.m. until 12:45 p.m.; and ages 11 and up, 2 until 4 p.m. Creek Tales are the focus of the puppetry workshop conducted by renowned puppeteer, Joann McMillan. Attendees will make flat stick puppets and participate in puppetry performances on March 22. Pre-registration is required. To register call 591-4585.

Creek Tales: Puppetry Performance will also be performed on March 22nd from 10 until 10:45 a.m. at the Charles Page Library. Youths who attended the puppetry workshop on March 21st will assist her.

American Indian Craft Projects will be presented on March 23rd from 2 until 3 p.m. at the Glenpool Library. The library is located at 730 E. 141st Street. Glenpool Library branch manager, Ron Cook, will present a hands-on American Indian crafts program, for ages 7-12. Preregistration is required. You may call 746-5190 to register.

On March 24th, Muscogee Creek Genealogy and Tribal History will be presented from 7 until 8 p.m. at the Central Library Aaronson Auditorium – Fourth Street and Denver Avenue. Joyce Bear, Cultural Preservation Office of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, will discuss Creek history from removal to present.

American Indian Hand Games will be presented March 26th from 2 until 4 p.m. at the Maxwell Park Library. The Library is located at 1313 N. Canton in Tulsa. Warren Pratt, Jr. and members of the Pawnee Tribe will play American Indian hand games which are guessing games of skill and chance.

Tulsa City-County Library established the American Indian Resource Center four years ago to provide a support system for American Indians in the community and to highlight their history and culture. The library offers more than 7,200 books and media by and about American Indians.

For more information about the American Indian Festival of Words call 596-7977 or log on to www.tulsalibrary.org/airc.

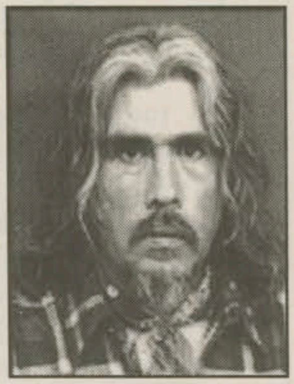
The American Indian Festival of Words is sponsored by Tulsa City-County Library's American Indian Resource Center, the Maxine and Jack Zarrow Family Foundation, Tulsa Library Trust and Cherokee Builders Inc.

The events are free and open to the public. If you are hearing-impaired and need a qualified interpreter, please call the library 48 hours in advance of the program.

SIDNEY BARNES

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Sidney Barnes were held January 8 at the Williamson Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. J.B. Fish officiating.

He was born January 16, 1948 and passed away on January 6, 2005. He was the son of Tom and Leila Barnes of Wetumka.



Barnes

Preceding him in death were: his father, Thomas Alex Barnes; brother, Charles Thomas Barnes; and sisters, Joella and Betty Loretta Barnes.

Survivors include: his mother, Leila Barnett-Barnes; sisters, Ann Gibson, Gloria B. Jones, Mickey Deer and Paula Herrod; two sons, Neville and Somachee Barnes; daughter, Johnetta Battiest; and several nieces, nephews, cousins and many special friends.

Pallbearers include: Legas Barnett; Palmer Noon; Alex Deer; Hillis Herrod; William Gouge; Steven Thompson and Toma Barnes.

Interment was held at the Barnes Family Cemetery in Wetumka.

JESSE KELLEY

BROKEN ARROW — Funeral services were held for Jesse Franklin Kelly at Haikey Chapel Indian United Methodist Church with Rev. Brad Drowningbear officiating.

He was born September 23, 1946 to the late Jesse A. Kelley and Mary Lee Ragsdale Day.

Jesse was raised in Sperry and graduated from Vinita High School in 1964. He attended Bacone College for one and one half years. He married Barbara Paradise Kelley of Elko, Nevada. Jess joined the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed in San Diego, California from 1966 to 1968. After Jesse was honorably discharged from the Marines, they moved to Los Angeles for a couple of years before moving back to Tulsa. Upon their return, he attended OSU-Tech and graduated in 1973. He worked for Target Corporation, Buy for Less and Safeway (now known as Homeland), where he worked for over 30 years and served as Manager of the Bakery Department.

He was a descendant of one of the original founders of Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church and served as Chairman of the churches' Board of Trustees for two years. Jesse began his service to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as members of the Citizenship and Election Board. In 1983, he was elected as a Tulsa District Council Representative for the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and he represented the Tulsa District for five succeeding terms until the time of his death. Some of his accomplishments included sponsoring and cosponsoring legislation for the Tribe's school clothing program; assistance for utility services and transportation; annual Senior Methodist's camp meetings; and ceremonies at the Council Oak Tree. He was instrumental in introducing electronic balloting for Tribal elections; acquiring Tribal funding for improving Indian church buildings, grounds, and infrastructure; expanding the nonsmoking wing of the Tulsa bingo facility; and extending the Riverside parkway. The last bill he sponsored, passed by the National Council in February, was their approval of the new gaming compact with the State of Oklahoma.

Jesse was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Lemuel Kelley.

Survivors include: his beloved wife; one son, Lance Cal Kelley of Green Bay, Wisconsin; one brother, Thurman Kelley of Claremore; two sisters, Suzanna Narcomey and Mary Ann Bell, both of Tulsa, and a cousin.

Interment was at the Bixby Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to Haikey Chapel in memory of Jesse F. Kelley at P.O. Box 988, Jenks, OK 74037.

ROSA KELLY

OKMULGEE — Funeral services were held for Rosa "Rose" Mae (Lasley) Kelly at Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church with Muscogee Second Chief, Rev. Alfred Berryhill officiating.

She was born January 18, 1928 to Gilbert and Senora Simmons Lasley in Hanna.

Rose grew up in Hanna and attended school there. She lived briefly in Talihina before moving to Lawrence, KS where she attended Haskell Indian Institute, graduating in 1958. She lived in Kansas City, Kansas for many years. While living there, Rose and her husband Eugene Kelly two of the original founders of the Heart of America Indian Center in Kansas City, MO. Since 1971, the center has helped over 150,000 Native Americans from 57 different Indian Nations. Today, it still operates as the oldest continuously operated Indian Center in the U.S.

After living in Kansas, Rose returned to Oklahoma, where she served as a JOM/Teachers Aide in the Henryetta Public School System for approximately 8 years. She later became a longtime employee of the Creek Nation Elderly Nutrition Center, where she worked as the head cook until her retirement in 1993. She retired with approximately 15 years of service with Creek Nation. After her retirement, Rose began a career as an accomplished textile artist. She was also a member of Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church and a member of Weogufkee Ceremonial Ground in Hanna. Rose was also a longtime member of the Okmulgee Indian Community.

Kelly was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and 2 brothers, Youman and Jim Lasley.

Survivors include: 2 daughters; Jeana Gouge of Dustin and Vicki Johnson of the home; 1 grandson; 1 sister, Mattie Thomas of Okmulgee; 2 brothers, Monroe Lasley of Kansas City, MO, and Mose Lindsey of Dewar; 1 goddaughter and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and many good friends.

Pallbearers were Washington Kelly Jr., David Nichols, Thomas Roberson, Gilbert Thomas, Milton and Delbert Lasley.

Honorary pallbearers were Eugene Thomas Jr.; "Wolfie" Phillips; Oris "Pony", Rodman, Jeremiah and Ivan Lasley.

Interment was at the Lasley Family Cemetery next to Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church.

WILLARD YARGEE

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Willard E. "Beepsy" Yargee were held January 25 at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Frank Moppin and Rev. Fred Lindsey officiating.

He was born January 19, 1958 to William and Salina Mae Tiger Yargee in McAlester.

Yargee attended Wetumka schools until moving to Holdenville in 1975. He graduated high school in 1976 and entered the United States Army National Guard *in 1980.* He honorably served his country in the United States Marine Corp. He returned to Holdenville after his discharge and on Dec. 22, 1997, he married Justina (Buck) Yargee. The couple made their home in Wetumka and Yargee worked with the Cook Oil Company and the Wewoka Oil and Gas Production Company. He was a member of the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church and his hobbies included going to the grocery store, riding around with his wife, Justina and their dogs, spending time with his grandchildren, fishing, hunting and collecting fishing equipment.

He was preceded in death by: his father; one sister, Teres Yargee and his dog, Baby Girl.

Survivors include: his mother, Salina Yargee; wife, Justina of the home; one daughter, Kasena Moppin of Holdenville; three stepchildren, Lucinda Josh, Yahola and Sonja Buck; one brother, Charles Yargee; four sisters, Sarah Moppin of Holdenville, Deliah Stauffer, Mona Bowman, and Marilyn Yargee, all of Wetumka; his dog, Girlie, and several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers include: Yahola Buck, Brandon Rico, James Tiger, James and Marsey Scott, Robert Berryhill, Jackie Yargee and Brownie Harjo.

Honorary pallbearers include: nephews, Cody Rico; Ryan, Jon and Jeremiah Moppin; Eric, Kenny and Jeremy Yahola.

Interment was held at the Wetumka Cemetery.

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H.D. & R.D. Griffin
Indian Owned & Operated
Dana West
Funeral Director

Blue Eagle Solutions
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Eliminating Diabetic Amputations
Treatments available at Okemah Indian Health Center - Diabetes Prevention & Management Program or Contact your Diabetes Care provider
Neuro-Care
FDA & Medicare Approved
Mariah Lee,
President & CEO
9928 E. 55th Pl., Suite D
Tulsa, OK 74146
E-Mail: msullilee@aol.com
Phone: 918.630-3543
Fax: 918-665-1944
Featured in May 2004 issue of Muscogee Nation News

February District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Williamson: Dava v. Wellis: Carl
  Ex-Parte
- Hicks: Richard, Rubeen & Nakita v. Hicks: Clinton
  Ex- Parte
- Birdcreek: JoAnn v. Jack: Pete
  Ex-Parte
- Kelough: Lorene v. Lindsey: Kayle
  Ex-Parte
- Kelough: Leticia v. Delgado: Melvin
  Ex-Parte
- Guffey: Sherry v. Harjo: Adam
  Ex-Parte

Criminal - Misdemeanor:

- MCN vs. Williams: Anthony
  Ct. 1: Public Intoxication

Criminal - Felonies:

- MCN vs. Lowery: William
  Ct. 1: Fugitive
- MCN vs. Williams: Ricky
  Ct. 1: Poss. Of Paraphernalia
- MCN vs. Stowers: Richard
  Ct. 1: Aggravated Assault & Battery
- MCN vs. Boyd: James
  Ct. 1: Poss. Of Paraphernalia
  Ct. 2: Poss. Of Illegal Drug w/ intent to distribute
  Ct. 3: Child Endangerment

Traffic:

- MCN v. Smith: Virginia
  Ct. 1: Expired Tag
  Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Bressette: Jennifer
  Ct. 1: Trespassing
- MCN v. Cauthon: Jimmy Dee
  Ct. 1: Poss. Of Alcohol

Divorce:

- Smith: Ronald v. Smith: Shelia
- Ralston: Vernon v. Ralston: Angeletta
- Day: James v. Day: Ruth
- Noyes: Jonnie v. Orvold: Jessy

Civil/Small Claims:

- Courtesy Loans v. Ward: Donna
  Small Claims
- WM. D. Funderburk DMD v. Denton-Bowman: Shelly
  Foreign Judgement
- Owen: Florence
  Name Change
- MCN Consumer Loans v. Harley: Timothy Jr.
  Small Claims
- Reese: Amy v. Renollet: Andy
  Petition for Paternity
- Security Finance v. Gray: Foster
  Small Claims
- Tulsa: Jamie v. Foster: Michael
  Petition for Paternity
- Royal Finance v. Harjo: Anita
  Small Claims
- Wind: Kelly v. Factor: Sallie Mae
  Petition for Paternity
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Johnson: Dana
  Small Claims
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Deer: Larry and/or Deborah
  Small Claims

Legal Notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 3, March 2005

Case No. CV 2005-06
In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the matter of notice of hearing to terminate parental rights, Jonita Kay Rowe, plaintiff vs. Victor Ramon Anderson, Jr., Defendant

NOTICE OF HEARING TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

TO: Victor Ramon Anderson, Jr.

On the 27th day of January, 2005, an Application was filed in this court by the natural mother seeking an order of this Court to terminate Victor Ramon Anderson, Jr.'s parental rights to minor child Kyron Daniel Anderson. The minor child, Kyron Daniel Anderson, was born on the 13th day of June, 2001, to Victor Ramon Anderson, Jr. and Jonita Rowe. A hearing on said application is set for the 12th day of April, 2005, the hour of 10:00 o'clock, a.m. in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore.

Petitioner has alleged in the application that the father of Kyron Daniel Anderson is Victor Ramon Anderson, Jr.

Notice is hereby given that the court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the application at the time and place above shown where you will have the right to be present and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place including the right to object to the termination of your parental rights over the said child: Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the child, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in said child's adoption without your consent. Notice is hereby given that the court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the application to terminate your parental rights. If you do not appear at this hearing, the court will, on the date and time of the hearing, enter an order terminating your parental rights without further notice. Your parental rights to said child shall thereby be terminated in accordance with the tribal code of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the laws of the state of Oklahoma.

Signed and dated this 27th day of January, 2005.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court
/s/ Lori J. Guevara, MCN Bar # 199
Supervising Attorney
/s/ Dawn Sturdevant Baum, MCN Bar #349
Student Clinician for Petitioner
TU Boesche Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Clinic
407 S. Florence Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74104

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 3, March 2005

Case No. CV 2004-37
In the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In The Matter of service of summons by publication notice, Malinda Wilson, Plaintiff vs. Mark Edward Fisher, Defendant.

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

TO: Mark Edward Fisher

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity in the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. CV 2004-37, styled Malinda Wilson, Plaintiff vs. Mark Edward Fisher, Defendant. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to an *Order Establishing Paternity* naming you as the natural father of a minor child and also asking for legal custody of the minor child and for child support to be calculated according to Tribal Code and State Law.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the plaintiff on or before the 27th day of March, 2005, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of plaintiff as prayed for in her petition.

Given under my hand and seal this 27th day of January, 2005.

Tobie King, Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 3, March 2005

Case No. CV 2004-70
In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the matter of notice of filing petition for change of name, In re the Name Change of Sydney Grace Barnett

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

TO: Whom it may concern

Sydney Grace Barnett, born January 28, 1965, has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed from Sydney Grace Barnett to Sydney Grace Martin and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, on the 28th day of March, 2005 at 9 o'clock a.m. or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing

Given under my hand a seal this 21st day of February, 2005.

Marva Proctor, Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma

/s/ Lori J. Guevara, Attorney for Petitioner, MCN 199
/s/ Matthew Hall, Student Clinician for Petitioner
TU Boesche Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Program
407 South Florence Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74104-2430

Shop talk with Gerald

I hope everyone is having a good March and I hope wild onions are the only thing wild in your life right now. Well, not too many sport crazed fans are too disappointed with this time of the year. The time of the lunar calendar in which sports seems to take center stage. Everyone seems to be getting a little excited right now, because its March Madness baby! College basketball will be the main focus as the NCAA will crown a national champion.

On the High School level, state playoff tournaments have ended and Sequoyah High School captured a gold and silver ball, with the girls' team being crowned the 3A State Champion and the boys' finishing runner-up to the Oklahoma Christian Saints.

On the local level, sports enthusiasts may want to check a local writer with the Tulsa World. Eric Bailey, a Creek-Seminole, has been writing for the World sports since September. Bailey covers all aspects of the sporting world with a human interest touch as well. You certainly won't have any problem identifying him next to his articles. Beside his name is a photo of the Native American writer who looks every bit like one of the boys you grew up with who lived down the street.

A bit of an update on the mascot issue we talked about in last month's issue. Apparently, the Oklahoma Senate Committee on Education did not feel a need to bar Indian mascot names and the Oklahoma Racial Mascots Act died with a vote of 18 to 5. Even though the bill, which was sponsored by State Senator Judy Eason McIntrye, has been defeated for now, supporters of the bill are still happy the issue even went up for debate. "We are encouraged because two years ago this wasn't even an issue that people were discussing and today it was heard in the Senate," said Louis Gray, President of the Tulsa Indian Coalition against Racism (TICAR).

Well the 2nd annual March Madness Basketball Tournament will be tipping off March 23 through the 27 to be exact. Action will take place at the Dewar High School Gymnasium. The brackets are full on both the girls and boys side with teams from Arizona, and Texas also competing. Scholarships will also be awarded to deserving scholastic athletes.

Of course the traditional 3-point, team ball, and slam-dunk contests will be featured as well. Don't forget the East/West All-Star games that will feature the best of the best. Other items to note are the outstanding offense and defensive players of the tournament.

Maybe the powers that be may want to seriously consider renaming the month of March to basketball. After all, that's mainly the one thing people are thinking about during this time. Yeah, there's that thing called St. Patrick's Day and of course Easter, but sometimes that switches to April. So why not give this pivotal seasonal month of the year a sports title.

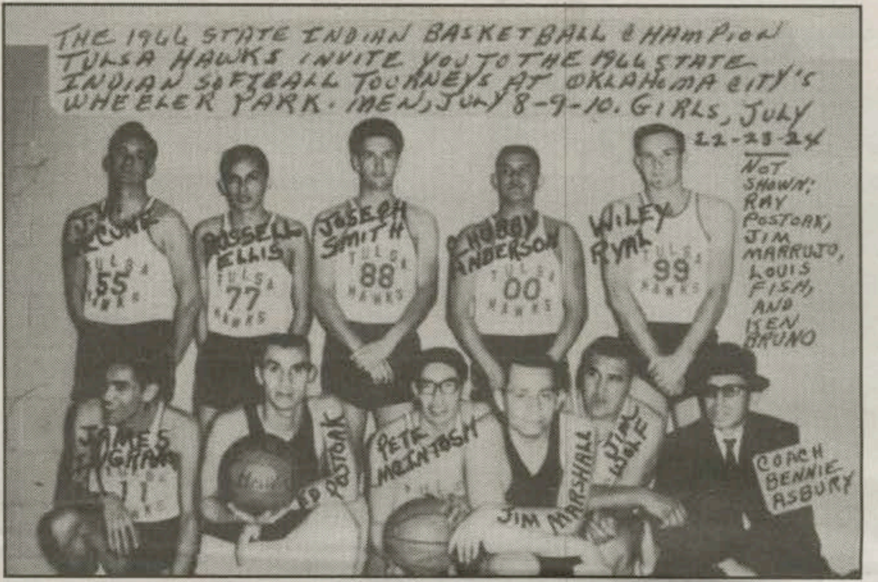
Member of a championship team looks back and reflects

TULSA — The year of nineteen hundred and sixty-six was a pivotal year in history. Among he growing crisis in Vietnam, the civil rights march across the country, and a nationwide youth movement, a group of Oklahoma Indians went out and won the 1966 State Indian Basketball Championship.

The Tulsa Hawks, a team comprised of 14 tough, hard nosed ball players were right for the times. The young men, at the time, represented an era when basketball was a more disciplined sport, where team work and a strong work ethic was demanded.

The basketball showboats and attitudes of today weren't discovered yet and a focus of team first and winning on the scoreboard, were still the main priority.

The team's roster was comprised of last names that are probably heard even now in local sports circles, but belonging to nephews, nieces, and grandchildren today. The team included J.W. McCune, Russell Ellis, Joseph Smith, Chubby Anderson, Wiley Ryal, James Ingram, Ed Postoak, Pete McIntosh, Jim Marshall, Jim Wolfe, Ray Postoak, Jim Marrujo, Louis Fish and Ken Bruno.


THE 1966 STATE INDIAN BASKETBALL CHAMPION
TULSA HAWKS INVITE YOU TO THE 1966 STATE
INDIAN SOFTBALL TOURNEYS AT OKLAHOMA CITY'S
WHEELER PARK. MEN, JULY 8-9-10. GIRLS, JULY 22-23-24
NOT SHOWN: RAY POSTOAK, JIM MARRUJO, LOUIS FISH, AND KEN BRUNO
McCUNE
55
RUSSELL ELLIS
77
JOSEPH SMITH
88
CHUBBY ANDERSON
00
WILEY RYAL
99
JAMES INGRAM
11
ED POSTOAK
PETE McINTOSH
JIM MARSHALL
JIM WOLFE
COACH BENNIE ASBURY

The 1966 State Indian Basketball Champions Tulsa Hawks.

The team was independent, often teams of that nature only played on weekends for just a good time, but the Hawks approached the game in a business type manner. Even the coach, Bennie Asbury, saw the game in a serious and respectful manner. Asbury would wear a suit and tie to each game ready to lead the team in the proper manner. His philosophy on coaching attire would be totally unheard of in today's independent tournaments.

Back then it wasn't unusual for a player whose team lost out to go and join another winning team in the same tournament. Ryal says it felt like they were playing an all star team during the finals.

"When the tournament started to really go in our favor, many opposing teams would begin to protest in the middle of games and demand proof of Indian citizenhip from our players," said Ryal. "Finally, we had an Indian preacher by the name of George Hicks testify over the loud speaker that we were all Indian."

Creek athlete still keeping the faith at the age of 60

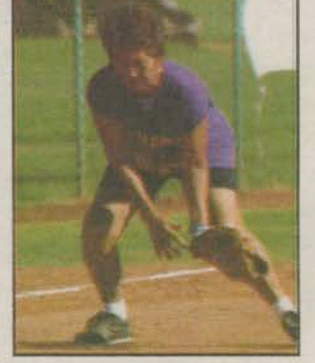
SUN LAKES, AZ — You're only as old as you feel is a quote Ella 'Calanie' Bailey truly lives by.

The 60 year old Creek athlete continues to play the game of softball.

Bailey, grew up in Avondale, Arizona. From the comforts of a desert background, Bailey plays ball with the passion of a 15 year old. She plays with two teams, the Sun Lakes Swingers and the Arizona Sunsets.

Bailey has played every position but calls her self a utility player. "I never know where the coach would put me," she laughs.

Bailey credits her uncles Bill and Jack Barnett on teaching her to play softball and how to pitch in 1953. She was living in San Diego at the time and played for area teams, including the Navy Wives League, who were League Champions four years in a row.



Bailey

Like the movie, *The Natural,* Bailey grew older but still wanted to play. In 1979, at the age of 35, Bailey walked onto the Oklahoma Baptist University Women's softball team as a pitcher. Bailey's teams would qualify for the College World Series two years in a row. That has been the last time that the college has made an appearance at the College World Series.

Bailey has recently been invited to play with the Tucson Rancherettes in the National Senior Olympics in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in June.

Executive Office

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Athletes receive scholarships

• Page 6

MUSCOGEE COUNTY
LIVESTOCK SHOW

Creek Nation Agriculture program

• Page 19

Tilleys contribute to Wewoka's success

• Page 24

Muscogee Nation News

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Volume 34, Issue 4 P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 April 2005, 24 Pages

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to construct activity center at Claude Cox Omniplex

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Creek Nation is planning to construct an activity center at the Claude Cox omniplex with construction to begin the first of July. The activity center will be a 100 ft. in diameter sprung building and will be equipped with a full-length basketball court, portable hitting cages and pitching machines. The building will also be functional for volleyball, boxing, soccer and other athletic activities.

The Creek Nation festival committee will manage the activity center until funding is available for a full time activity center staff. The activity center is the first phase of construction for up to date renovation of the Claude Cox omniplex.

Phase two of renovations will include permanent restrooms, a fully operational kitchen and a new multi-purpose center that will house two full length basketball courts an elevated walking track and aerobics room.

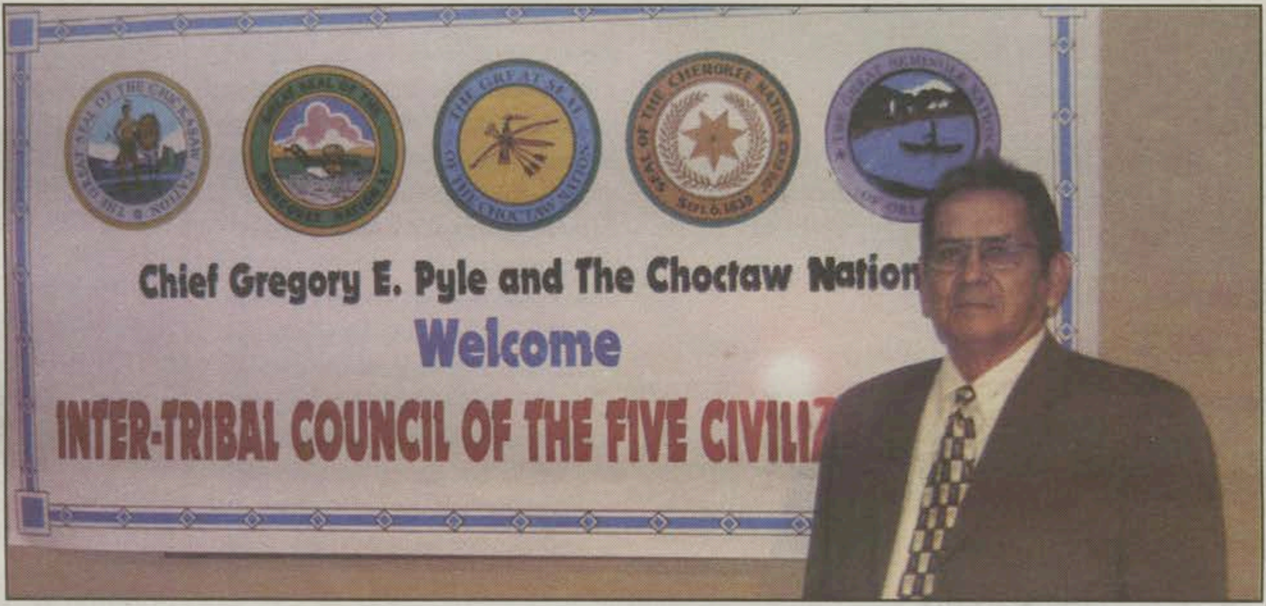
In the past and present time, there was and is a need for the multi-purpose building and activity center. These (buildings) will allow activities to continue during inclement weather, which force activities to be postponed, cancelled or moved to different locations during the festival.

This will also allow the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to utilize our property and generate revenue back into the tribe from outside sources.

Upon completion of the activity center and multi-purpose building, more activities will be planned weekly. The activities can also be utilized for communities, gospel singing, etc.

For more information, contact Lucas Taylor Creek Nation festival chairman at 918-732-7634 or (800) 482-1979 ext. 7634.

Principal Chief conducts first Inter-tribal meeting


Chief Gregory E. Pyle and The Choctaw Nation
Welcome
INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE FIVE CIVILI

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis presided over Inter-tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes for the first time on April 7 and 8 in Durant. He assumed the role of Chairman on January 14, 2005 and will hold the position for a term of one year.

Chief Ellis meets with Ceremonial Ground Mekkos

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief Ellis held the 2nd annual meeting of the Mekkos on April 2 in the Mound Auditorium. All Mekkos were greeted and welcomed by Second Chief Alfred L Berryhill, Elder Services Manager Jackson Barnett, Human Development Director Mike Flud and IHS Representative Bud McCombs.

Second Chief Berryhill reminded the group "this is your tribe, and assured them that services would be available if needed". The tribe is here as servants to the people. We tried to do as much as possible for the grounds.

The Nation was successful in purchasing more land for one of the grounds. The majority of the items considered and discussed were land issues, sanitation, land purchased and bathrooms built, and running water. If the grounds own land, we need to know. A few of the sixteen grounds do not want running water or modern facilities. Trash dump was a big problem, no waste company wants bring big containers or receptacles they were told they need concrete slab work, if needed we will go to National Council to get an appropriation. Last year we got a call from one of the grounds, they had an electrical outage, we now have power generators that were purchased for use in cases of emergency.

We have been approached and it was brought up and requested, metal for the camps. A building in Kellyville has been planned to be demolished and the salvaged materials from this building will be available later this summer.

Creek Citizen and IHS (Indian Health Services) representative Bud McCombs addressed issues such as environmental. Their facilities are based here at the complex to support the services that the tribe offers. We are not regulatory or inspections, we have a force account crew that resolves work orders for individuals. McCombs was present to answer any questions they had regarding sanitary facilities and construction. We need to build an all access for the dumpsters at these sites.

All Mekkos had the opportunity to speak, voice their concerns and the issues to address. This administration respects the ceremonial grounds that have continued our language, tradition and culture of our people.

please see **MEETING**..., page 14

Citizen gives thanks for home repairs

Editor:

My mom and I approached the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association to see if we could get help with home repairs. Our bathroom floor was in terrible condition.

The Social Services Department was able to get funding for materials, if we would get someone to do the labor. Well, my mom is disabled and I didn't know anything about home repairs. Nancy Nibbs announced to our community members our situation at one of the monthly meetings. By the end of the night, we had two volunteers, Jim Freeman and Allen Yargee and by the end of the week, we had a new, sturdy and beautiful bathroom floor.

Teresa Gouge of the Social Services Department, went out of her way to help as well. She was able to find another program called Rebuilding Together to provide other home repairs that the OCMA and Creek Nation could not.

We are so grateful for everything the OCMA has done for us. We are lucky to have community members that cared enough to make it a priority project. MVTO for everything!

Dawn Harjo, Oklahoma City

Rights to worship

Editor:

First of all, I offer this out of love and respect with a measure of understanding. The United States Constitution guarantees that its citizenry has the exclusive right to worship and to establish, within each congregation, mosque or temple, the explicit practice thereof. Each church and denomination is different and in most cases, autonomous. It is free to establish and charter a constitution and bylaws that serve to protect the identity and the integrity of the respective church body. Our church reserves the right guaranteed to us to adhere to its constitution in all matters of public openness and usage. Our church as well as others and even corporations have this as a matter of appropriateness in an effort to conduct ourselves in all manner of decency and order as it relates to the principles set forth by the Word of God. Its principles are not founded on public opinion, nor on social norms, but solely on the Holy Scriptures.

The Church as we believe is not a country club, nor is it a community center, nor a ceremonial ground, or a place to conduct political persuasion. The church proper is the body of believers that are joined by a common commitment, namely by placing our faith in the atoning work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is the privilege of the place of common fellowship.

Secondly, to provide a setting for biblical education and propagation of the Gospel. Thirdly, to serve as a staging point for the propagation of the Gospel. Fourthly, it is through the church where mission opportunities are engaged in to minister to the community in all appropriateness and ability, and lastly but not at all exhaustive is it freedom to express its worship to a Holy and Sovereign Lord.

The previous month's article author stated that you should "state your wishes and stand your ground". It is our hope, as well as that of other churches, that interested parties understand that we too have standards of conduct and worship, that are in keeping with our belief system, in this case, the Word of God. Out of love and respect, talk and let all your concerns be known by all involved, including the leadership of the church. There are some practices labeled "traditional", "ceremonial" or even "Christian" that may not be appropriate in each others "environment", for we are not all the same. These practices may and will vary by the respective church and it tolerances.

We also realize, along with the previous month's article, that there are a lot of decisions that must be made in a short amount of time. Mourning has set in, disbelief is common and making sure everything is ready is a difficult task for the family. With better communications and open understanding on both sides of all involved, even the whole family, situations like this need not to happen.

It is understood that the previous article is indicative of the family as a whole nor does it represent the traditional or ceremonial community as a whole, nor does this present article represent all churches and or denominational interests.

Respectfully submitted

Pastor Randy Colbert, Belvin Baptist Church, Okmulgee

Woman expresses appreciation

Editor:

I would like to express our feeling of comfort that the Native American Funeral Home in Bristow gave my family during our loss of our baby Alycia Anna Cruz 'Lesee' Alvarez.

Rachel and Hully Griffin, (owners) and Dana West went beyond business during this most stressful time. They are a very small business, but they are *extremely large* from the heart. I feel it is very important at such a time to not be pressured by a funeral home or anyone else.

Native American Funeral Home took the time to listen to what we wanted, not what they wanted for us.

They accommodated not just our Muscogee Creek culture, beliefs and practices but also that of Lesee's Cherokee, Cheyenne-Arapaho and Hispanic cultures as well. Some (funeral homes) can claim to honor and understand our ways, but I feel that no one can understand us better than one of own.

I believe the Griffins truly understand where we're coming from, one Este Cate to another.

Billie (Sulphur) Scott, Bristow

Muscogee Nation News

Members of the following two associations:

NAJA
Native American Journalist Association

NAPP
The National Association of Photoshop Professionals

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Office of the Principal Chief...

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello to all friends and tribal citizens. This being the first week of spring is a great time of the year. As a life long farmer, I always have the urge to plant crops and vegetables. It is a joy to see a single seed sprout and grow into a beautiful tomato plant or watermelon. I know the Creek people were tillers of the soil for hundred's of years and many are still carrying on this form of culture. April second was our 2nd Annual Meeting of the Mekkos it was a very good and informative meeting. This August will be the 2nd annual meeting with church leaders throughout our nation it is something to look forward to.

I have just received a copy of resolution number 05-12 from the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Oklahoma.

This resolution simply implied that they refused to release or spend any Proceeds of sales money to help approximately twelve (12) very seriously needy Creek tribal citizens. Proceeds of Sales monies have few restrictions and can be used or released by the Board for low income housing, economic development, etc.. These are needs that have been overlooked for many years and are now emergency situations.

The amount of money in Proceeds of Sales budget is $15,496,795.04. Fifteen and half million at the Board's disposal is a very imposing amount for use to assist our people. The Housing Board is comprised of Larry Cahwee, Chair, Christine McIntosh, Rhol Perryman, Jim Harjo and Charlie Frank. After terminating the old board I appointed these new members and they were subsequently, approved by our National Council. Each member promises to serve the needs of our people. Although, they are a state board, they are all Creek citizens.

I hope they will be decision makers and not let the attorneys make their decisions for them. The resolution also stated "the Board authorized and requests the expenditure of NAHASDA funds. This board has neither the jurisdiction nor authority over these funds. NAHASDA funds are tribal funds.

I urge the National Council to investigate this and assist this office to expend a portion of these funds to provide much needed housing service to our Creek citizens. We have an enormous amount of Housing money that is not being spent. I have requested the expenditure of these funds to provide service to our people. I have requested we expend these funds instead of depriving our people of one to of their basic needs which is for shelter.

Next month, I promise to try and improve the Chiefs report to be more informative. The work load with the Gaming Compact which has just been approved by the Department of Interiors and the Tobacco Compact still working leaves little to no time to produce newspaper articles. To everyone, best wishes and good health. *Mvto.*

Quote of the month: *"A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out."*

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES
MUSCOGEE CONFEDERACY
DRESS & APPEARANCE
BEFORE EUROPEAN EXPLORATION

By
Patrick E. Moore

Muscogee Confederacy society prior to European invasions into North America was very rigidly structured. Habits of the Muscogee were regulated along moral and religious grounds concerning dress and personal appearance. The Muscogee Confederacy was loosely divided into the Upper Creeks, who resided in the vicinity of the Tallapoosa and Coosa rivers, and the Lower Creeks, who occupied lands in the vicinity of the current Alabama-Georgia state border.

Confederacy women wore calf length skirts that were tied with a thong at the waist. These shirts were made of either a single deerskin or several smaller animal skins pieced together. Women also made use of a textile woven from fibers of the Mulberry tree together with fibers of a particular tree moss found along the Georgia seacoast. They also wore moccasins that extended up to the calf of their leg. All young girls were required to wear a skirt and moccasins in public from the time they could walk.

Lower Creek women wore white mantles woven with thread obtained from several plants such as the Mulberry tree, Slippery Elm tree or a plant similar to the daffodil. On rare occasions the Lower Creek woman would wear a shawl or cloak of flamingo feathers.

Pre-Columbian Muscogee women did not cut their hair, it was braided and fastened into a topknot secured by shell or bone hairpins. Most of the time their hair was treated with powder and juices made from the red sumac berry with bear grease added to give it a special luster.

The Muscogee female of good repute did not use body paint of any color.

These industrious women used numerous plant fibers to weave garters, belts, sashes, headbands and bags. They also incorporated geometric designs into their weaving, consisting of diamonds, W's and V's, coupled with imported porcupine quills from the far north, from south and central America, silver bells. The Muscogee woman dyed fabrics in her favorite colors, blue and red.

The Muscogee man wore a breech or loin cloth that hung down in both the front and back plus leggings made of leather. These leggings were often dyed black, laced with white leather thongs and trimmed with a fringe of colored leather. Muscogee boys wore no clothing until they reached puberty.

Muskrat cloaks and ankle length robes made of colorful feathers were reserved for Mekkos, who also wore mantles made of colorfully painted deer skin, sable and wildcat fur. Men who had distinguished themselves in some form or fashion were allowed to wear a swan feather bonnet at festivals. Other headdresses consisted of bands decorated with beads that encircled the head adorned in front with the plumage of a crane, flamingo or heron. Some head bands were decorated using porcupine quills obtained in trade with northern Native Americans.

Turkey feather fans were used by the men when participating in ceremonies along with garters, sashes, belts and pouches. Some made use of shoulder bags and bandoliers decorated with symbolic designs.

Most men wore their hair in the form of a roach on the front of their head with a braid down each side and a scalplock hanging behind, others preferred shaving of their head with a single braided hair lock down either the right or left temple.

The Confederacy warrior was tattooed extensively with flowers, stars, scrolls, animals, crescents, snakes, and sun designs which were reserved for the center of his chest. His body was often divided into several areas where only one type of design would appear. Facial tattooing was quite common and prevailed into the 1800's. A new tattoo would be added for each additional noteworthy exploit or conquest in battle in much the same manner as the modern day combat soldier receives a decoration or medal for bravery. The warrior alone could paint the head, neck and chest with vermillion sometimes outlined in black. The implements of war were also dipped and painted red along with the battle standard or calumet.

Men made extensive use of jewelry and favored ear rings of copper, he also wore a shell gorget and copper finger rings. Elaborate breastplates and round rawhide shields have been found at some archeological sites within the old Muscogee Confederacy's boundaries. These armaments were also a part of the warrior man's wardrobe.

The special Shaman or religious leader wore white buckskin, white moccasins decorated with red streaks, from his neck hung shell gorget and he carried a wreath of white swan feathers.

please see **MOORE**..., page 22

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the December 28, emergency session.

December 28, Emergency session

Absent were: **Sue Johnson**, Muskogee District; **Billy Chalakee**, Okmulgee District; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; and **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

discussion on tobacco compact;

no action was taken;

March 5, Regular session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Sue Johnson**, Muskogee District; and **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved (18-4-0) TR 05-025, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for the purpose of constructing a senior and/or health facility;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-027, authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce authority to pursue the development of property located in Tulsa County, Oklahoma;

• approved (21-1-0) TR 05-028, approving the Native Nations Professional Engineers (NNPE) business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce authority;

voting no was: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-035, amending the Muscogee (Creek) Nation procurement policies and procedures for the expenditure of HUD funding;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-036, confirming the nomination of **Robyn K. Culley** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health system board of directors;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-037, authorizing the Principal Chief to accept a deed for a tract of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by the Checotah Indian Community;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-039, changing the designated use of tribal property located in Creek County, Oklahoma;

• died on the floor (13-9-0) TR 05-042, authorizing the Principal Chief to include a statement within a tribal-state gaming compact between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the State of Oklahoma for Class III games the compact is signed under protest;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-047, amending the quality assurance representative agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and **Jerry O. Lawson**;

• approved (16-6-0) TR 05-048, approving the vehicle lease agreement for net or maintenance leases between transportation leasing company and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-049, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute the amendments to the vehicle lease agreement #13300 dated November 10, 2000 between transportation leasing company and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (20-2-0) TR 05-050, approving the business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority with the Alliance sign company;

voting no were: **Chalakee**, Okmulgee and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved as amended (18-4-0) NCA 05-004, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in McIntosh County, Oklahoma to be used to construct a senior and/or health facility;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

due to a tie vote speaker votes yes;

• approved to return to committee (12-11-0) NCA 05-020, amending NCA 04-131 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending Title 16, Chapter four of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and amending and repealing certain laws to reorganize the existing structure of Lighthorse Police;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved as amended (21-0-1) NCA 05-025, authorizing a special appropriation to a certain tribal Muscogee (Creek) citizen for medical travel expenses;

abstain were: **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 05-027, amending NCA 04-153 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the comprehensive annual budget for Fiscal Year 2005 and providing for appropriations;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 05-028, authorizing a special appropriation to the Wetumka Indian Club and one sponsor for educational purposes;

• approved (19-3-0) NCA 05-029, amending NCA 04-055 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation enacting a new housing code and codifying said law in Title 24, "Housing," of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, repealing NCA 81-79, NCA 83-09, NCA 92-29, NCA 96-105, NCA 97-100, NCA 98-70 and NCA 98-131; and amending NCA 04-035 ("Executive Office Reorganization Act") to authorize a limited waiver of sovereign immunity in construction contracts and the application of Oklahoma Law in said contracts;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

• approved (19-3-0) NCA 05-030, amending NCA 04-055 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation enacting a new housing code and codifying said law in Title 24, "Housing," of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, repealing NCA 81-79, NCA 83-09, NCA 92-29, NCA 96-105, NCA 97-100, NCA 98-70 and NCA 98-131; and amending NCA 04-035 ("Executive Office Reorganization Act"), to authorize the Principal Chief and any designated person(s) to execute certain contracts on behalf of the division of housing;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 05-032, authorizing an appropriation to the Hanna Indian Community Center for repairs and operating costs;

voting no was: **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

•approved as amended (15-7-0) NCA 05-034, authorizing a special appropriation to the Salem.Ryal elderly nutrition program;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Jones**, Okmulgee; **Chalakee**, Okmulgee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Hufft**, Tulsa;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 05-035, authorizing a special appropriation for a creek family for financial assistance to accompany their eight (8) year old son to compete in a world wrestling event;

voting no was: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (18-1-3) NCA 05-036, authorizing a special appropriation for a creek citizen who needs assistance due to loss of income for an extended period of time;

voting no was: **McIntosh**, McIntosh;

abstain were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

Parish was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 05-037, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) language program at the University of Oklahoma;

voting no was: **Pickering**, McIntosh;

Parish was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-039, authorizing a special appropriation for the Spring Celebration sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation partnership board;

• approved (15-6-1) NCA 05-044, appropriating funds for the erection of a sprung building to be located at the tribal complex;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Quiett**, Tulsa;

abstain was: **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 05-045, authorizing a special appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H program;

voting no was: **Jones**, Okmulgee.

March 15, Emergency session

Absent were: **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpvtce District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; and **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved (16-0-0) NCA 05-070, authorizing a special appropriation to the election board to conduct a special election on April 16, 2005.

Correction

In the March 2005 issue there was error on January 29, 2005 minutes. It should have read that Tom Pickering was present during this session.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Second Annual Community Conference Announced

TULSA — The Community Conference 2005 will kick off on Friday, April 22 with round tables of Bureaucracy discussion with Tulsa area elected and appointed officials. The two-day conference will focus on an exchange of ideas and communication between Tulsa's residential business, youth and civic communities. The event will be held at Christview Christian Church 2525 S. Garnett Road, on April 22 & 23 and is open to the public across the state.

Friday evening table topics will feature Dr. David Sawyer, Superintendent Tulsa Public Schools, and members of Tulsa Public School board, continuing education, Tulsa County Commissioners, Tulsa City Councilors, Tulsa's Mayor Bill LaFortune and people from the administrative team, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods and Mayor's Action Center, various boards commission and authority members, Vision 2025 and others. Registration will begin at 5:30 until 6 p.m., with opening remarks beginning at 6 p.m. Discussion sessions will ensue at 6:25 p.m. with rotation every 25 minutes thereafter, to alternate topic areas. Open forum style question and answer session will enable participants to ask questions one on one of the facilitators.

The Saturday session will be over 30 working sessions of the conference. Morning and afternoon breakout sessions will focus on topic-specific hour and a half sessions ranging from Tulsa animal shelter, development in urban areas, investing, neighborhood resources, legal issues and responsibilities, runaways, chairing a committee, crime prevention, listening to your pet, preservation, first time home buyers, hospice, early settlement, zoning, home based business with Professor Glenn Muske of OSU, PSO and the tree trimming program, legal aid service in Oklahoma, and many more. A special feature will be two presentations by Michael Wallis, Route 66 author and Dewberry Engineering on Route 66...it's past, present and future and how it relates to us. Luncheon speaker will be Jim Cremin. Mr. Cremin has been delivering seminars for over 30 years to many of the major corporations. Various sports venues have used Mr. Cremin's services to help change from negative thinking to positive progress. Mr. Cremin not only has a great message, but an entertaining and wholesome delivery.

This year's conference is dedicated to the memory of Nancy Apgar, long time Tulsa Neighborhood volunteer and mentor to many existing neighborhood associations today. Participants may register on-line at www.tulsaseat.com, fax a request at (918) 438-4747 or leave a message at (918) 439-1432.

Fees for the conference are Friday, dessert and discussions, $20 per person. The fee for Saturday's breakfast by Panera Bread, all workshops, lunch, luncheon speaker and door prize drawings will be $30 per person. A 10% discount for Saturday may be obtained by bringing donations of baby items for donation to a section of the Eastern Oklahoma Food Bank. Diapers and nonperishable baby foods are most needed.

For more information a message phone may be reached at (918) 439-1432. A representative of South & East Alliance of Tulsa will return your call.

Bristow appreciates support of community

BRISTOW — The Bristow Indian Community "Creek Travelers" held a Men's Basketball Tournament on February 26. The tournament consisted of the following teams: Superfreak; Ray's Gang; Natives; Tribe; Depew; Este Cate; Ambush & Native Pride.

The winners are as follows: champions, Ambush; second place, Depew and third place, Tribe.

The second place team players were Andy, Joe, Jesse, Josh Cooper and Wesley.

The third place winners were David 'Joe' West, Darrell Coon, Eric Weiss, Norman 'Bungie' Taryole, Dale Price, Brandon and Dereck West.

The Bristow Indian Community 'Creek Travelers' organization would also like to thank the eight teams who participated and the Bristow School Administration for the use of the gym, the people who came to watch the games and to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department for getting the information out to the people.

Ambush Team pictured left to right: Kwiana, Hochini, John Billy, Chris Holuby, Doug Hill and Ali. Other players not pictured: Eric Thilocco, Vincent Coon, Brigham Burk and John Stokes.

For any further information, contact the Bristow Indian Community: smokeshop & fax, (918) 367-9448; bingo, (918) 367-9168; nutrition, (918) 367-2249.

The mailing address is 710 S. Main and the community center is located at 1221 W. Lincoln.

Bristow Indian Community holds their meetings on the third Tuesdays at 7 p.m. The directions to the community center are: go south on main street to last stoplight, turn right and go 1/2 block to yellow building on right.

Economic Development Summit planned

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Cherokee Nation will present an Economic Development Summit on April 30 at the Green Country Technology Center. The summit will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The purpose of this summit is to stimulate the economic growth of our tribal communities. A network of representatives and sponsors will present their perspectives in planning, finance and development in rural and city areas, in efforts to accomplish a higher standard of economic development for our tribal communities.

The guest speaker will be State Representative Lisa Billy. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Services office at (918) 732-7965.

Sworn to Service

OKMULGEE — The Community Research and Development will provide technical assistance and seek resources for the twenty-three active chartered Indian Communities. Also, encourage and promote self sufficiency in the areas of economic development and self-determination.

The department will respond to requests for assistance on technical matters in regard to the development and/or revisions of community constitutions and by-laws. These duties are in addition to planning, researching, developing and facilitating in other areas of the community realm (Community Development Block Grant proposals, Facility Use Agreements, Sub-let Agreements, and Contracts/Agreements with third parties).

For more information, contact the Community Research and Development office at (918) 732-7962 or 1-800-482-1979 extension 7962.

Tell Us About Your Events

Please keep us informed of your community activities and events so that we may help you get the word out.

Contact us at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at P.O. Box 580/Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 or by phone at (918) 732-7637. Feel free to fax us as well by using our fax number at (918) 758-0824.

Scholarships awarded to Native American athletes

DEWAR — The 2nd March Madness All Indian Tournament recently presented their scholarships to the tournament participants at the awards banquet on March 27. The awards were proudly presented to the Native American athletes in amounts totaling over $73,000 in scholarships.

Dr. Robert Duncan, Jr. , President and Jerrett Phillips, Director of Admissions and Enrollment of Bacone College presented their two four year scholarships to Creek citizens, Brian Culley of Mason and Melissa Mack of Butner.

Haskell Indian Nations University Board of Regents member George Tiger, presented two $500 scholarship awards to David "Blade" Goodman and Keisha Billy, both of Dustin.

National Council Representatives Roger Barnett (Creek district) and Rita Williams (Okmulgee district) presented their two $1000 scholarships to Leona Hicks of Butner and David Rutledge-Parker of Bokoshe.

For Love of the Game representative, Victor Bear presented two $500 scholarships to Mark Gaches of Schulter and Katie Bo Coon of Okemah.

2005 scholarship winners at the 2nd Annual March Madness Tournament.

Over two-hundred athletes participated in the tournament. There were teams from as far away as Livingston, Texas and San Carlos, Arizona.

For the Love of the Game Representatives, David Pascal, B.J. Waggnor and Victor Bear stated "they are already planning for March Madness 2006 to be better and in a bigger facility at Henryetta High School Gymnasium." Coordinator Lucas Taylor said, "the organization's goal is to one day reach scholarships in the amount of $100,000 or greater. We would like to attract more attention from more colleges and universities nationwide."

Childers Memorial Scholarship

COWETA — For nearly three decades, the late Kenneth Childers worked with students and faculty at Coweta Public Schools as Director of Indian Education.

Childers' death on February 4, 2005 took him away from a community he loved. And now, the community is reaching out in order to keep his memory alive.

In mid-February the Ken Childers Memorial Scholarship was established by the Childers family. On February 25, the faculty and staff of Central elementary made the first contribution to the scholarship fund.

Central Elementary Principal Dr. Nanette Lane said 28 percent of the student population at her building is Native American. Childers worked closely with these youngsters and other students for years, presenting special programming and offering support in all areas. Those working at Central took up a personal collection to get the scholarship fund rolling.

Kenneth Childers, Jr. said, "The memorial scholarship will be awarded to a graduating Coweta senior who plans to pursue vocational or other higher education after graduation." Applications are open to all students regardless of race.

Childers said consideration will be given to leadership capabilities and community and school involvement. A grade point average of 2.0 is required, and consideration will also be given to hardship situations.

Person wishing to make a donation to the memorial scholarship fund may do so at the First National Bank of Coweta. To learn more, call Childers at (918) 486-7872.

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James Adelman, (Muscogee Creek)
Admiral @ N. Trenton
Tulsa, OK 74120
918.599.7799
866.599.0916
(24 Hours)

Births

Matthias Scott Contu

OKMULGEE—Matthias Scott Contu was born on December 29, 2004 to Mersessa Contu and Chester Bear.

He weighed seven pounds and 14 ounces and 19 and one half inches long.

Maternal Grandparents are Wyquita and Frank Bear. Paternal grandmother is Sandra Bear and great-grandparents are Gretchen and Eddie Lindsey.

Matthias has one brother, Elijah Berryhill.

Matthias Scott Contu

Contu

Emily Yonayv Fixico

NORMAN — Emily Yonayv Fixico was born on November 17, 2004 at Norman Regional Hospital to Stephanie Berryhill and Johnny Fixico of Norman.

She weighed 9 lbs. and 10 ounces and was 20 and one half inches in length.

Fixico is Ecovlke and is the daughter of Nokosvlke. She is the granddaughter of Hvlpvtvlke and Aktvyahcvlke. Fixico belongs to Ocevpofv and is the daughter of Apehkv. She is the granddaughter of Kvsehtv and Vcenv Hvcce Tvlse.

Her maternal grandparents are Jo Ann Skaggs of Okmulgee and Michael and Julia Berryhill of Henryetta. Her paternal grandparents are the late Robert and Mamie Fixico, Holdenville.

Fixico's great grandparents are the late Drennon and May Bell Hawkins Skaggs, the late Tom and Blanch Pakoska Berryhill, the late Tom and Lily King Thompson and the late Wadie and Fannie Factor Fixico.

She has three siblings, Jennifer, age 28, and Jason Fixico, age 27, both of Moore and Eco Barnett, five of the home.

Fixico

Birthday

Gonseth celebrated birthday with family

OKMULGEE — Luke Adam Gonseth celebrated his fourth birthday with family and friends at Pizza Hut with a spiderman theme on January 20. He is the son of Beth and Eric Gonseth of Preston.

He is the grandson of Sherryl and Clarence Gonseth and Betsy Griffin, all of Preston, and the late Danny Griffin of Schulter. His great grandparents are Mae and Ray Holloway of Preston and Betty Delso and the late Bill Delso of Shulter.

Luke has three sisters, Bre'Onna Gonseth, Danielle and Kristen Waller.

Gonseth

Harjo sisters celebrated birthdays

PAWNEE—Destiny Gale celebrated her eighth birthday on February 26 and Alexandria Louise celebrated her 12th birthday on January 24 with family and friends.

Destiny and Alex are the daughter's of Theron and Stacy Harjo of Pawnee.

Paternal grandparents are Sandy Chino Sr. of Acomita, New Mexico and the late Diana Chino of Acomita, New Mexico.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Henry Sr. and Judy (Wesley) Harjo of Wetumka and the late Philip and Louise Mathews of Pawnee.

D. and A. Harjo

Dylan celebrates 7th Birthday

BEGGS — Dylan DeWayne Melton celebrated his 7th birthday on March 17 at Mazzio's Pizza with a sports theme.

Melton loves to play sports. He is starting to play coach pitch with the Beggs little league.

He is the son of Christopher Melton and Lanissa Jack Melton of Beggs.

His maternal grandparent is Lee Ann Jack of Dustin. Paternal grandparents are Steve and Theresa Melton of Henryetta. Great maternal grandparents are Lourna Pigeon Jack and the late Mitchell Jack of Dustin. Great paternal grandparents are Charles and Dores Melton.

Melton

Postoak celebrates with family and friends

TULSA—Brigitte Elizabeth Postoak turned 19 on April 5th with family and friends.

She is the daughter of the late Amos T. Postoak and Marion Graves.

Maternal grandparents are the late Karl-Heinz and Brigitte Zwanzig of Berlin, Germany. Paternal grandparents are the late Eli and Lizzie Postoak of Sasakwa.

Brigitte has nine older brothers and sisters and one younger sister.

Postoak

Society

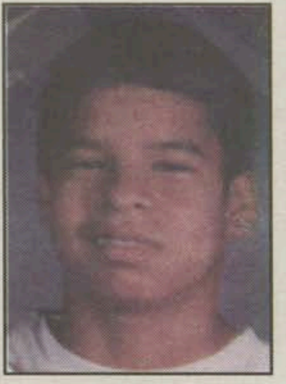
Beaver wins first place

TAHLEQUAH — Anthony Beaver, age 14, is in the ninth grade at Sequoyah High School.

Anthony won first place at Hilldale Jr. High power lifting meet of 123 pounds rating. Beaver is the first freshman in his class to place first in powerlifting. His coach is Brent Scott.

Anthony is the son of Rick and Lisa Powell and sisters, B.T., Terra and Shelby.

His grandparents are Lu Joshua and the late Lee Joshua Sr.



Beaver

International Honor Society Inducts Yahola

SEMINOLE — Timothy Eric Yahola was inducted into the Honor Society March 21. The ceremonies were held at Jeff Johnston Auditorium at the Seminole Jr. College.

The Phe Theta Kappa honor society recognizes students with grade average of 3.5 or higher.

Yahola's parents are Howard and Delilah Stouffer of Wetumka and Timothy Yahola of Stratford. His maternal grandparents are Salina Yargee and the late William Yargee of Wetumka. Paternal grandparents are Martha Yahola of Wewoka and Roman Yahola of Holdenville.

Announcements

Tainpeah and Coachman wed

OKEMAH — Cynthia Ann Coachman and Ray Tainpeah were united in marriage at on April 2 at Arbeka United Methodist Church in Okemah.

The Rev. Lester Tims, Northern District Superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, officiated the ceremony. A reception followed at the church's Fellowship Hall.

The bride was given in marriage by her son, Arharlock T. Buckley. Miss Rebecca L. Coachman was Maid of Honor. The son of the groom, Ji Tainpeah served as the Best Man with Groomsmen, Shawn West. Tysie Harjo and Talia Buckley. The flower girls were escorted by A.J. Buckley and Ethan Underwood. Rev. Carol Walker sang a wedding song followed by a marriage prayer.

Cynthia is the Program Manager for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program and Ray is the Behavioral Health Coordinator for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee.

After a honeymoon in Alaska, Cynthia and Ray Tainpeah will reside at their home in Prague.

Tainpeahs

US Army Corps of Engineers Small Business Program

By Yolane Hartsfield, Deputy for Small Business Tulsa District

TULSA — U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has demonstrated an opportunity for small businesses to work within the Department of Defense facilities located in this region of the United States. Tulsa District has strong civil and military construction programs, including environmental work, ongoing in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, and Louisiana. We have a workforce committed to finding meaningful work for small businesses.

Tulsa District routinely place work with small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, Native American owned businesses, women-owned businesses, 8 (a) businesses, HUBzone businesses, veteran owned businesses, and service disabled veteran owned small businesses. Tulsa District had an excellent 2004 supporting the Small Business program. From a total contracting effort of $274.5 million, we awarded $42,960,440 to 8 (a) firms, 15.65% of our dollars. We awarded $36,750,441 to HUBzone firms, 13.39% of our dollars. We awarded $118,455,912 to small business firms, 43.15% of our dollars. We awarded 79,360,728 to small disadvantaged firms, or 28.91% of our dollars. We awarded $2,937,314 to service disabled veteran owned small businesses, 1.07% of our dollars. We awarded $14,858,417 to women owned small business, 5.41% of our dollars. We awarded 98.43% of our education dollars to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU/MIs) far exceeding our goal of 18.2%.

With 39 recognized tribal governments in Oklahoma, our contracting with tribally owned and individually owned Native American small businesses provides a clear example to others who are looking to economically develop in clearly positive and profitable areas. Tulsa District, and its Small Business Office, continuously seek out Native American owned small businesses to inform them about contracting opportunities within the Tulsa District; share information about SBA programs that the Native American firms can use to their benefit; and, inform and arm them with relevant information about the DOD's Indian Incentive Award's Program—a unique program providing opportunity for Native American owned small businesses in the subcontracting arena.

In July 2004 Tulsa District awarded a $15M Basic Ordering Agreement for Design/Build services to a Tribal Indian Owned 8(a) firm. This unique tool allows smaller design/build projects to be executed on a design/build basis in a timely manner and help the District reach our small business goals.

In September 2004, Tulsa District awarded a unique contract for lock and dam operator services.

please see **BUSINESS**..., page 16

Trade & Commerce Authority employee turning dreams into reality

OKMULGEE — Carmen Johnson, Project Manager for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade & Commerce Authority has recently received her certificate of completion for the program in mastering project management. The award was administered through Villanova University.

Johnson

While completing the program is an accomplishment in itself, Johnson is also turning her dreams into reality to continue her education by seeking her Bachelor's of Science in Business Management through the University of Phoenix.

Johnson has been with the Trade & Commerce Authority for 2 years. "When I first started, we only had 2 people and now there are at least 10 that work within the office but more importantly and impressive is the fact that we now have eight additional entities that have been created under Trade & Commerce. The eight entities not only include all Creek Nation Travel Plazas but also include Document and Imaging, Farm Authority and the three newest businesses: Alliance Sign Company, Native Nations Professional Engineer (NNPE) and the Muscogee Nation Screening and Supply Services (MNSSS)."

"I started from the bottom and have worked my way up. When I first came, I was only looking for a part-time job and have managed to work my way up the ladder putting in the time to start from Secretary I to Sr. Office Coordinator to Office Manager and finally Project Manager.

When I decided to continue my education I wasn't quite sure I'd have the time but I credit my success to the support of my family. I have two children, Jonathan and Vanessa and a very understanding and supportive husband, Omar. With their help and love, I have been able to accomplish so much."

When asked about the turning point for the Trade & Commerce Authority and the direction of economic development and growth, Johnson gave recognition to Director Daniel Wesley and the support staff of the Trade & Commerce Authority office. "To go from an office with 2 desks and an empty file cabinet to eight businesses is a preeminent feat by anyone's standards."

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade & Commerce Authority does not seem to have problems acquiring possible clients interested in obtaining their services. "We don't have to sell who we are or what we do, they just come to us" stated Johnson.

Innovative venture launched at the Trade & Commerce Authority

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade & Commerce Authority is doing it again. They have created yet another business and hope to continue to add to the prosperity and economic development of the Creek people.

The new company, Muscogee Nation Screening and Supply Services, otherwise known as MNSSS. MNSSS is a background checking, drug screening and testing establishment. No longer are the days of traveling to Tulsa or other cities to take a drug test to begin employment. The business which is 100% Indian owned is headquartered at the Trade & Commerce Authority building.

The purpose is to not only to serve the people with quicker results but more importantly, be screened here and maintain and generate the money back into the tribe. The tribe previously sent out the prospective employee to a private industry for testing.

Alexis Crosley, Manager, stated MNSSS will abide by the same policies as the tribe and while it will create three to four new positions, there was no funding requested in order to set things in motion. "Once we acquire a constant and reliable clientele list, it (MNSSS) will pay for itself."

Crosley stated that the background checks done will be just the same as other private sectors, if not stricter. Not only will all checks go through the local Police Department but they will also go through the Department of Corrections, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, Oklahoma State Court Network and Records also the State of Oklahoma County Listings and will one day be ran through the FBI systems as well as all tribal district courts.

The drug screening and testing division of the company will utilize the EZ Split method and will have the capabilities to screen over 10 different families of illegal substances. Results will be available within a 30 minute time period.

All drug testing will be administered under the direction of the possible employer. Once hired, the company may implement random drug testing at their discretion. Should an employer execute their right to set up such testing, an employees can be terminated for refusing to take the test.

"All drug and alcohol test results and related materials are considered confidential records and must be stored separately from other personnel records. Such records must be made available to an applicant or employee upon request for inspection or copying. Records may not be released by the employer to any individual other than the applicant, employee or employer's review officer without the expressly granted permission of the employee."

The staff will be on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information, please contact the MNSSS at (918) 732-7764.

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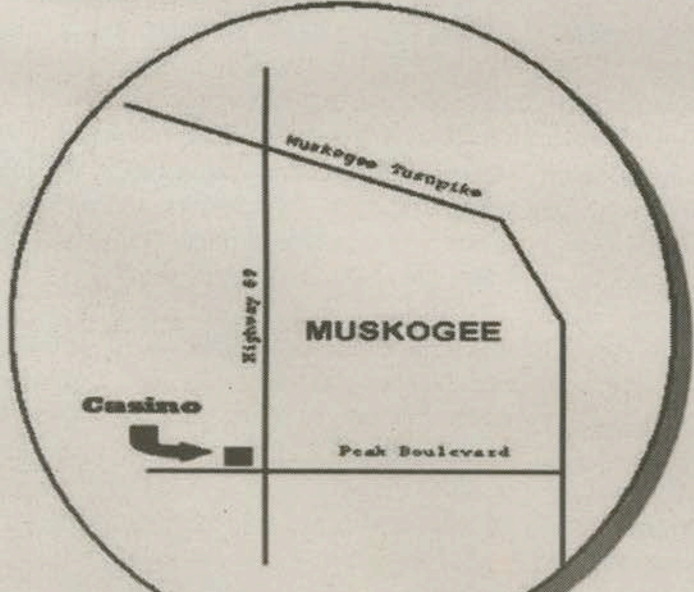

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Grasslands Reserve Program Evaluated

OKMULGEE — The Grasslands Reserve Program (GRP) assists private landowners in protecting, conserving and restoring grassland resources through short and long term rental agreements and easements. The voluntary program helps protect valuable grasslands from conversion to other land uses. Rental agreements of 10, 15, 20, or 30 years compensate producers with a yearly rental rate to maintain the land according to a grazing plan. Permanent and 30-year easement enrollment options compensate producers based on the fair market value of the land minus the grassland value for maintaining the land according to a grazing plan. Continued use of the land by grazing or haying is allowed.

Oklahoma has received $2.065 million for this year's GRP. The 2005 GRP will emphasize selection of offered easement acres. Applications for the Grasslands Reserve Program are accepted on a continuous basis with a yearly announced application evaluation dates. Applications for GRP can be made at the Farm Service Agency or Natural Resource Conservation Services Officers, 719 East Eighth Street.

All GRP applications received by April 18, 2005 will be considered for the 2005 funding. Applications received after this date will be considered for the 2006 GRP funding.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services Available.

OKMULGEE — The Realty Department would like to advertise the upcoming meeting with Oklahoma Indian Legal Services. Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will be at the complex on April 21 starting at 10 a.m.

Anyone wanting to meet with a representative can call 732-7713 and schedule an appointment.

Gold Dome Multi-cultural Society

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Gold Dome Multi-cultural Society announced today that it is accepting submissions for its "Invitation to Awareness" mural contest. The winning work will be announced in a ceremony on May 14 and will become a permanent fixture in the organization's space within the historic Gold Dome building, located at 1112 NW 23rd Street.

Emerging and established artists are invited to submit original works, with a Multi-cultural theme, for consideration to the Gold Dome Multi-cultural Society by May 1.

All interested artists should e-mail David Smith at golddomemcs@sbcglobal.net for a mural contest application form. Submissions can be brought to the mural drop box near the Gold Dome 23rd Street entrance or sent electronically in a PDF format to golddomemcs@sbcglobal.net.

Artwork delivered in person needs to be in an envelope and should not exceed 12" by 18" in size. All submissions must include the application form in order to be considered for judging.

In addition to the permanent mural, the Gold Dome Multi-cultural Society will also feature a gallery for artists whose works will include cultural themes. The inaugural exhibit will consist of select mural contest submissions.

For official mural contest rules and information about the Gold Dome Multi-cultural Society, please contact David Smith at golddomemcs@sbcglobal.net.

Sequoyah Alumni Foundation

TAHLEQUAH — The Sequoyah Alumni Foundation's 60th Annual Reunion will be from May 6 through 8.

There will be a silent auction in the Cherokee Nation Ballroom located behind the "Restaurant of the Cherokees" on May 6. The social begins at 5:30 p.m. and runs until 10 p.m., which also ends the auction. The public is invited and admission is free.

Haskell's 2005 Alumni of the Year

LAWRENCE, K.S. — Each year the National Haskell Alumni Association honor alumni for outstanding contributions to Haskell, their Indian community and to Alumni activities.

This year the honor goes to Dempsey Micco and Barney Old Crow. Dempsey is Seminole/Creek from Weleetka and Barney is Crow from Montana.

The Honor Dinner will be May 13 at the Holidome in Lawrence, Kansas at 6:30 p.m. The cost is $25 per person; make checks payable to NHAA and mail to Louis Taylor, Treasurer, P.O. Box 1534, Claremore, OK 74018 before May 1, call (505) 831-6522 or e-mail LJT50@aol.com.

Haskell Commencement Indian Men's Fast Pitch

LAWRENCE, K.S. — The 11th Annual Haskell Commencement Indian Men's Fast-Pitch will be held May 14-15 at Clinton Lake Sports Complex. The entry fee is $180 and payable by money order only. The deadline is May 9 to enter.

The awards (which may be subject to change) are: $700 and Pullovers for the Champions, $500 and T-shirts for the runners up, $300 and T-shirts for third, T-shirts for the All-Tournament team, and a pendleton jacket for MVP.

For more information, e-mail or call: Angela Barnett, abarnett@haskell.edu or 785-749-8402; Kerry Girty, kgirty@haskell.edu or 785-832-6600; or Robert Berryhill Jr., robertberryhill@hotmail.com or 785-841-1292.

Live-Fire Demonstration for Veterans

FORT SILL — A Live-fire demonstration will be performed on May 5. There are 60 seats available but only 20 seats remaining. It is for Muscogee veterans only, the bus leaves the tribal complex at 0700.

The bus will stop to pick up Muscogee veterans at Okemah at 0800 and leave at exactly 0830. Please bring a copy of DD 214 for in-processing at Fort Sill. The bus will return to the Mound parking lot at approximately 2200.

For more information contact Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739.

Jacobson House Native Art Center

NORMAN —The Jacobson House Native Art Center is putting out a call for artists and exhibitors for their 2005 Outdoor Indian Market taking place May 7 - 8 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information please contact John Parish at 405-366-1667.

Louisa Canard/Alex Scott Family Reunion

OKMULGEE — The Louisa Canard/Alex Scott family reunion will be held at Dripping Springs Park on May 21 starting at 10 a.m. Descendants of Louisa Canard or Alex Scott are invited to attend.

Anyone attending is asked to bring a potluck dish. There will be lots of fun for everyone. For more information you may contact Geneva Haynes at (918) 759-8973.

Haskell Alumni Association Accepting Members

LAWRENCE, K.S. — The Haskell Alumni Association is accepting members. They need to know your name, address, telephone number, the dates you were enrolled and the name you used while there. A membership fee of $10.00 covers from November 1, 2004 to October 31, 2005.

Please send the information and payment to Lou Lasley, 9700 Sheperd's Drive, Kansas City, MO 64131.

Eufaula Child Development Center

EUFAULA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Eufaula Child Development Center would like to announce that they are beginning the summer fun a bit early, starting it off in April.

The first week of April is the "Week of the Young Child" with various activities. The second week of April is "Reading is fun week" during which they visited the Eufaula Public Library. The third week is "National Gardening Week" during which they learned how to plant and take care of a flower garden. The fourth week is "National Volunteer Week" during which they will have various volunteers come and tell about their jobs and play with the children. Also during volunteer week they plan to entertain the residents of the local nursing homes with songs and a short puppet program.

However, even fun and games have a purpose and the children are taught through play and hands on experiences. They visit local parks and recreation areas when weather permits to watch the local wildlife and see all the different plants and flowers. There also have weekly lesson plans with an array of activities including math, art, science, reading, music, and group time.

The teaching staff is well trained in the field of Child Care, with a combined total of 30 years in the field. At this time there are 3 staff members attending Eastern Oklahoma State College pursing an Associates of Science degree in Early Childhood Development.

For any questions or comments please call Shannon Grissom, Center Supervisor, at 918-618-4019.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Classifieds

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Classifieds is a free service provided for Creek Citizens. To place a classified advertisement in the Muscogee Nation News please contact the Communications Department Classified Section at 918-732-7643 or email the advertisement content to Cbrown@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Advertisement space is limited and ads will be placed as they are received according to space.

Appliances

GE 8 cycle washer, almond color, good condition works fine $100. Call 918-756-4349.

Automobiles

1997 White Ford Escort Wagon, great gas mileage, very clean excellent condition. Previously used as a sales fleet vehicle. $2500 firm. Call 918-906-8509.

1997 Silver Buick LeSabre $3500. Very Clean, runs good. Call 918-827-5272.

1995 White Ford E250 Cargo Van $4500. Call 906-8509.

1996 White Chevy Astro Van, runs and body is in fair shape needs a cylinoid. $900. Call 918-798-1643.

1961 Ford Uni-body F100 223 6 cylinder $1500. Call (918) 759-0043.

2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer LS Gold with black 2 wheel drive, 6 cylinder, Automatic, 4 doors, Onstar Center Air bags, 6000 miles, power windows and doors, will make April & May payment, equipped with luggage rack. Call William at 733-1270.

95 Chrysler New Yorker 4 door, runs good needs minimal body repair. Call 918-756-3396.

Blue 94 Geo Tracker, removable hard top, runs good. Call 918-756-3396.

1983 Three quarter ton Chevy 454, runs on gas or propane. $2695. Call 918-756-4349 after 5pm.

94 El Camino 305, extremely great condition low miles. $4395. Call 918-756-4349.

Clothing

Preteen boys clothes, large sizes good condition. Leather Jackets $35 each. Call 918-304-9729.

Prom Dresses – all dresses are size 12. $50. Contact at 918-304-9729.

Black long length leather women's coat, size 1x. $50. Call 918-304-9729.

Prom Dress Turquoise – size 7. Contact Sherri Riley 918-732-7943 (Price Negotiable).

Cosmetic and Health Care

Check out the new summer items and cosmetic line from Avon. Contact Angela Fields Avon Independent Sales Representative at 918-284-3140.

Mary Kay cosmetic products available contact Marsha Lowe at 918-652-1681.

Melaluca Products All Natural based products that promote wellness and vitality for more information contact Kimberly Reinking at 918-652-3169.

Farm & Garden

Looking for new or good condition used bee boxes. Contact 918-473-7758.

2 New (never used) saddle racks in the shape of cowboys. $150 each. Call 918-733-2467.

42 inch Craftsmen mower deck (like new) with new, never used blades. $250 or OBO. Call 319-0654.

Furniture

Black leather couch good condition $50. Call 918-304-9729.

Rocker Glider hunter green sturdy wood frame material in good condition $30. Call 918-759-0043.

Solid wood bunk beds with detachable ladder. Frame is in really great shape, like new only used for 1 year. $100. Call 918-756-5025.

King size water bed/heater works fine and mattress is one year old. $25. Call 652-3147.

King size waterbed with headboard shelf and mirrors underbed drawers complete with heater and mattress in good condition. $450 or best offer. Call 918-733-2467.

BenchCraft Sofa and Loveseat for sale for $650. Color: Tan, Material: Micro-Suede, 1.5 years old, only used for 9 months. Easy clean-up. Call 918-756-5091.

Garage Sales & Fundraisers

Moving sale in Preston at 10251 South Polk Street. Rain or Shine under carport. Furniture, toys, clothes, equipment, appliances and more. April 23, from 7a.m. to 2 p.m.

Okmulgee Indian Community Flea Market, May 7. Food Sale– 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information, call Esther Gee (918)759-8553.

Block Garage Sale 1821 E. 9th Street Okmulgee, May 7th from 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Fundraiser for Native Praise Trip to England.

OIC Food Bingo across from Creek Complex, Loop 56 Okmulgee, May 14. Call (918)759-8553.

Big sale, clothing, shoes, toys, household goods, misc. on April 23 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Two miles east of Morris Highway.

Land for Lease

80 or more acres of land to lease for hunting purposes or would consider purchasing. Contact Scott at 918-650-3907 or 918-652-3147.

Pets & Livestock

Full blood Rottweiler pups $50 each. Parents on premises. 918-304-9729.

Chocolate Labrador female 2 1/2 years old very affectionate and obedient pet. AKC Registered and proven breeder. Call 918-906-8509.

Female Rat Terrier 2 1/2 years old red and white, very well behaved and loving has had some indoor training. $50. Call 918-798-0643.

ACHC Registered Labradoodle (Poodle/Lab mix) pups chocolate and black pups available. Hypo-allergenic, minimal to no shedding, great for hunting and water sports, very intelligent breed. $500 each. Call 918-756-5427.

Female blue heeler 12 weeks old. $50. Call 918-652-9266.

Canaries various colors $30 and up. Call 918-319-0654.

Looking for male or female Chihuahua pups, 6 months to a year old. Call 918-798-0643.

8 white rabbits. $5 each. Call 918-652-3541.

Misc.

Spring cleaning, brush, mowing, hauling misc. yard work in Okmulgee and surrounding area. Contact J. Polk and leave message at 918-756-3571.

Wanted old magic cards and war hammer 40k figures 918-759-0810.

Four motorcycle helmets (three open face and one full face). Sale as a group or individually. Price negotiable. Call 918-759-0043.

1996 Sea-doo 115 Hp, looks and runs like new. New trim motor, has cover and trailer. $3500. Call 918-759-0043.

1991 Hi-Lo 22' Camper Travel Trailer. $4000. Call 918-759-0043.

4 cash registers. $150 each. Call 918-733-2467.

18 golf clubs with bag. $30. Call 918-756-2899.

Eureka Boss vacuum cleaner. $20. Call 918-650-0628.

36 foot trailer, half car hauler/half enclosed. $2800. Call 918-756-2032.

10 -11 landscape timbers (treated). $2 each, 25 to 30 railroad ties $4 each. Call 918-652-7693.

40 channel CB for car with adapter for home call 758-4177.

Humidifier in good shape call 918-758-4177.

Native American Recipes

Blue Bread or Blue Dumpling

3 Cups	Masa Farina
2 TBSP	Coloring or dye
2 ½ Cups	Boiled water
6 Cups	Boiling Water
1 TBSP	Lye (optional)

Mix masa farina and coloring. Add water until the mixture is stiff enough to handle easily. Mold into patties and drop into the boiling water and lye mixture. Cook the patties 15-20 minutes.

*Each month a recipe for traditional food from a *Muscogee Nation News* reader will be listed.

If you would like to submit your traditional recipe, please mail to: Muscogee Nation News, Attn: Recipes, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or e-mail at jtaryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Tribal Celebration

WETUMKA—Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town will be hosting Tribal Celebration '05 on April 22 & 23 at the Armory Building. The armory is located at the 300 block of west St. Louis.

Activities include: princess pageant on Friday; elderly activities; 3-on-3 basketball; team horseshoe tournament; co-ed volleyball; and kid's olympics for children 12 & under. Arts & Crafts and food concessions will also be available. The entertainment will be "Red Dawn Blues Band".

For exact times and details, call Millie Wind or Tilda Harjo at (405) 452-3987, Augustine Asbury or Marsey Harjo at (405) 452-3881 or Lena Wind at (405) 452-3659.

Upcoming Spring Arts Schedule

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House, in collaboration with the Muscogee Creek Nation Historic and Cultural Preservation, have created classes on pottery, basketry and fingerweaving that began on January 29. These classes are continuation series and will include two classes for the Heddle Loom for fingerweaving. There is also two filled days dedicated to clay processing, cane harvesting and dyes.

The schedule for upcoming classes is as follows: April 22, & 23 – Beadwork class; April 30 – Finishing of projects; May 7 – Finishing of projects; May 14 – Finishing of projects; and May 14 thru June 14 – Starting Artist Show.

For further information call Ted Isham at (918) 756-2324.

Spring Contest Powwow

STILLWATER — Oklahoma State University Native American Student Association will host their Spring Contest Powwow on April 23 at Colvin Center Annex, located across from the OSU Police Department.

The head staff includes: head singer, Joe Fish Dupoint of Carnegie; master of ceremonies, Archie Mason of Tulsa; head man dancer, Jason Lightfoot of Apache; head lady dancer, Katherine Leroy of Pawnee; host gourd clan, Central Oklahoma Tribal Society of Perkins; color guard, Choctaw Nation Color Guard; and arena director, Mark Wilson of Tulsa.

Contests include: tiny tots; junior girls; junior boys; women's cloth, buckskin, jingle and fancy shawl; men's straight, fancy, grass and traditional; and golden age men and golden age women.

The program will begin at 2 p.m. with a gourd dance and supper will start at 5 p.m. The grand entry will begin at 6:30 with drum contest to follow.

For more information, contact the Multicultural Student Center at (405) 744-5481 or e-mail: pg.coser@okstate.edu.

Exhibition stompdance to be performed

Albuquerque, N.M. —An exhibition stompdance will be performed by citizens of Muscogee (Creek) Nation stompdancers at the "22nd Annual Gathering of Nations."

The stompdancers will perform on April 30, after the Miss Indian World Crowning, at 9:30 p.m.

All events will take place at the University of New Mexico's "The Pit." The address is Avenida Cesar Chavez Blvd. SE (Hwy. 25, exit #223).

"The Gathering of Nations has never had a Stompdance presentation and it will be so exciting for everyone attending to see", said Melonie Matthews, Gathering of Nations/Miss Indian World Program.

Cultural Day

OKMULGEE — The office of Child Care will be having their Spring Cultural Day event on May 5 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

There will be demonstrations on different types of traditional foods, creek singing, traditional craft items, stomp dance and more.

For more information, contact Newman Frank at (918) 732-7680.

Spring Powwow

SAPULPA—Sapulpa Public Schools Native American Student Association will hold their Annual Spring Powwow on May 7 at the Creek County Fairgrounds Arena. The fairgrounds are located at 17808 U.S. 66, just west of SH 33 on south side of U.S. 66.

The program begins with stickball at 3 p.m., followed by gourd dancing at 4 p.m. and grand entry starting at 7 p.m.

The head staff includes: host drum, "Riverside Boyz"; head gourd singer, Matt Horse; head man dancer, Mike Pahsetopah; head jr. man dancer, Jon Foster; head lady dancer, Lisa Pahsetopah; head jr. lady dancer, LaRhonda Bear; and color guard will be Sapulpa Public Schools Jr. ROTC. All drums and singers welcome.

For more information, call the Sapulpa Indian Education Office at 224-6560 extension 2061.

Graduation Powwow

TAHLEQUAH — Sequoyah Indians will host their "Honoring our Graduates Accomplishments" Graduation Powwow on May 7 at the Sequoyah High School Football Field.

The contest categories include: male categories, straight, traditional and grass/fancy; female, jingle, fancy shawl and cloth/buckskin; junior categories, female combined and male combined; and tiny tots.

Head man and head lady will be Sonny Hawk of Tahlequah and Bridgett Blackowl of El Reno. The head gourd will be Geoff White of Shawnee. Kelly Anquo of Tahlequah will serve as emcee. Wiley Littlecreek of Okemah will serve as head singer. The host color guard will be Talking Leaves Job Corp and H.O.P.E. Club members.

The gourd dance will be from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Dinner will be served from 5 until 6 p.m. Another gourd dance will be at 6 until 7 p.m., followed by grand entry from 7:30 until 8 p.m. The contest will begin at 8 until 11:30 p.m.

For more information, call Gloria Matthews or James Nells at 918-456-0631.

Basket weaving at Creek Council House Museum

OKMULGEE — The cultural class in basket weaving held at the Creek Council House Museum (CCHM) took a field trip to Schulter to harvest honeysuckle vines.

The ancestors harvested vines to make baskets for use to gather food and storage. After harvesting, the group returned to CCHM and prepared the vines.

The leaves were stripped off the vines by using corn cobs and modern day pot scrubber. The vines are dried, then ready for weaving.

Army Corps allows permit for mine in Creek homeland

reprinted from Indianz.com

MACON, GA. — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approved a permit for mine for clay in the homeland of the Muscogee Creek Nation.

The permit allows Cherokee Brick & Tile Co. to mine for clay in the Ocmulgee Old Fields. The permit lasts for 50 years, the longest mining permit issued by the Savannah District of the Army Corps.

The Creek Nation vigorously opposed the permit. The tribe says burial grounds and archaeological sites will be destroyed.

To read the full article, please visit www.indianz.com/News/2005/006963.asp and click get story – link.

Native Praise Choir to sing in England

BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND — The Native Praise Choir will be a feature of the North American Baptist Women's Union report at the Women's Leadership Development Conference on July 23 through 26 at Aston University.

The choir began in 1999 and is composed of more than 100 women, ages 14-85, from 17 different tribes and 40+ churches. The choir sings Cherokee, Choctaw and Creek hymns. They sing in the traditional style, unaccompanied and with lead singers, rather than a director.

They have sung in a variety of settings in Oklahoma, including: the annual meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma; Indian Falls Creek; the annual meeting of Women's Missionary Union of Oklahoma; Promise Seekers Ladies Retreat; various tribal events and a wide variety of churches and associations throughout the state.

Native Praise Choir
photo provided by NABWU

In June 2002, they were the feature choir in St. Louis for the annual session of Women's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist Convention. They have also sung in a variety of settings in North Carolina, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Arkansas and the District of Columbia.

In June 2003, Native Praise sang for a statewide Native American rally held at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City.

In addition to native hymns, choir members often share testimonies and a drama about traditions in Creek/ Seminole churches. They wear native dresses and sometimes present a "style show," explaining the significance of each feature.

Native Praise is sponsored by The Native American LINK, Inc., a Christian ministry located in Eufaula.

Church Events

Creek Singing

TULSA — Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center will host an afternoon of Creek singing on May 14.

There will be a pot luck lunch beginning at 11 a.m. The singing will begin shortly after 12 p.m.

Churches and choirs will participate in the all-day singing that will last until 5 p.m.

This event is promoting Creek hymns/Creek singing only and is the first of its kind at the community center.

The community center is located at 8611 S. Union and the phone number is 298-2464. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Gospel Singing

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church will be having their annual gospel singing on May 29 at 7 p.m.

The emcee's will be Springfield members. Concession will be available.

The church is located two miles south on Highway 27 from Okemah, four miles east and then one mile south.

Church celebration

HITCHITA — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be celebrating 148 years on May 29 at 6 p.m.

There will be gospel singing and the "word" spoken. Dinner will be served between 4 and 5:30 p.m.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. Concession will be available thru the evening. Speakers will be announced as follows. Signs will be posted.

For more information, please call 918-752-0980.

Creek Hymn Singing

OKMULGEE — Creek hymn singing will be presented at the 31st Annual Muscogee (Creek) Festival on June 17th & 18th.

The church limit has increased this year to the first 15 churches of the Methodist and Baptist denomination.

Those churches that are interested in participating in the Creek hymn singing can call, Helen Coon at 227-0896 or Mike Coon at 693-3391.

Oklahoma Flute Circle

NORMAN — The Jacobson House Native Art Center hosts playing and discussing the Native American flute taught by Native flutiest, Terry Tsotigh and Edmond Nevaquaya.

The classes meet on the first Fridays of each month from 7 until 9 p.m. There is no admission.

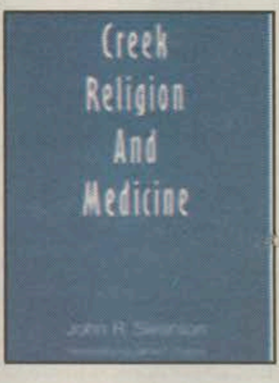
The Jacobson House Native Art Center is located at 609 Chautauqua Avenue.

For more information, please call 405-325-1431.

Creek Religion and Medicine

by John R. Swanton with Introduction by James T. Carson

Creek Religion and Medicine weaves together a wide array of historical sources with oral accounts gathered from fieldwork, this classic study provides a valuable overview of traditional Creek (Muskogee) religion and medicine. John R. Swanton visited the Creek Nation in the early twentieth century and learned about many important aspects of Creek religious life and medicine. Subjects covered in the book include Creek conceptions of the cosmos; religious stories; death and the afterlife; spiritual forces and beings; various rituals, including the Busk ceremony; prohibitions; the power and skills of different religious practitioners; the cultural force of witchcraft; and herbal and spiritual remedies. Many of these beliefs and practices have been present throughout Creek history and persist today. *Creek Religion and Medicine* showcases the vibrant culture of an enduring southeastern Native people.



John R. Swanton (1873-1958) was a seminal figure in the study of southeastern Native peoples, with more than thirty books to his credit. James Taylor is an assistant professor of history at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

The ISBN number is 0-8032-9274-0. The book is available through the University of Nebraska Press, 1111 Lincoln Mall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0630 or call at 1-800-755-1105.

Indian Falls Creek 2005

DAVIS — Indian Falls Creek 2005 will be held on August 1 through 5. The theme for Indian Falls Creek 2005 will be "Fill the House".

The camp preacher will be Clint Sinclair, a well known evangelist. The worship team will consist of Jesse Hernandez, Tyrone Smith, Donna Bear and Neil Thompson.

The registration fees for adults through 6 years old is $20 and for children 5 years and younger is $8.

For housing options, please call Slim Crabtree, housing director, at 405-382-2334 or Jim Gordon at 405-382-3564.

For more information contact, Victor Cope at 405-598-8720 or e-mail at NDNrev@aol.com.

Meeting

continued from page 1

We appreciate the grounds, they are very important part of this nation. Mike Flud was involved in establishing our Tribal College and the Board of Regents our Tribal College and now offers Beginner and Intermediate Creek language classes, Native American Government, Native American History and Crisis Intervention for our Lighthorse Police. Flud also feels our language is very important to the survival of our culture. We are based here at the complex to support the services that the tribe offers.

Sanitation and Human Health issues were addressed also we will plan a strategy to reduce the risk of spilling and flowing of dangerous materials. The Tribal Environmental protection situations, this information is beneficial to use to reduce this level, brochures were available explaining IHS services available. Contact us to talk about what services are available to you at any level.

Chief Ellis informed everyone in attendance of new services now available at the tribe and encouraged all to inquire and utilize these services. Veterans Affairs office assists with their paperwork and they are now drawing additional amounts they never knew they were entitled to. Right now, in the past eight months Creek Nation veterans are now drawing over $190,000 per month in entitled benefits.

Green Leaf Ceremonial Ground Mekko Bill Proctor and Second Chief Jimmy Deere

First to speak was Tallahassee-Cromwell Mekko Thomas Yahola voiced his concern about some of the grounds not owning the lands where their grounds are. We've been successful with the purchase of one of our grounds this month. He worries about what the heirs of these properties are going to do, they may want to sell the property, he feels that the grounds need an attorney that will make the property a priority.

Alabama Mekko Bobby Yargee spoke fluently in the Muscogee language. His concerns were also of the environmental issues. His interest was about running water and facilities. He was there to listen and gather information on behalf of his people.

This was Weogufkee (Muddy Water) Mekko Billy Hill's first time being involved said he really came to listen to see what the other Mekkos have to say.

Duck Creek Mekko Simon Harry asked Henehv Felix Brown to speak on his behalf, on environmental issues and sanitation we try to keep our land clean as much as we can, it is pretty clean, but it is something we do need to keep working on.

Nuyaka Mekko Phillip Deere, Jr was unable to attend but he did send their Henehv Eunice Hill. In respect to Mekko Deere he came to listen. Hill also reiterated in Creek. Hill said. "He was sitting in for Mekko Deere today to gather information and return to him with what he would learn today. It's good to see that our Mekkos attend and participate in these events coordinated by Principal Chief Ellis and his staff."

Hickory Ground Mekko George Thompson was glad to see everyone in attendance and that friendships were kept throughout the long winter. Our ground is located on private land we'd like to have a lease. We are always thinking about our young ones coming up I would like to say to our next generation, "be part of their ground, being out in the big city they need to realize where they came from."

Arbeka Mekko Raymond Meeley, had nothing to say at the moment he just wanted to sit in and listen.

Fish Pond Mekko Thomas Mack, Hillabee Mekko Daniel Harjo, Peach Ground Mekko Roman Hill or their designees were not in attendance.

Okfuskee Mekko Barney Harjochee and Farron Culley Heles Pvtcv and Entvkpvla expressed their appreciation of being invited to this meeting. They came to listen to all the concerns going on at our grounds, you speak about all the environmental issues, Okfuskee does not allow running water at their ground. "Our young people are losing their culture," Culley said. "He looked on the internet at our tribal website it had no information about our grounds only a picture of people stomp dancing. We have these young kids that get on the internet to explore we need to fulfill their curiosity to learn and preserve what we have. I think what we have is well worth preserving. This is our life, what we believe in and who we are. We should be proud of our culture." Culley said this meeting was very special to them.

New Tulsa Mekko Jeff Fixico's main concern is the land issues for New Tulsa and other grounds affected. They are in the middle of negotiating a land sale waiting on word from Creek Nation. They kind of got threatened by the land owner. They said if we didn't pay in three days she would lease it to someone else and we would lose it. These types of issues exist for all grounds owned by others than themselves. Fixico stated "his parents are both New Tulsan which makes him full-blood New Tulsan, I can't go and join up with a new ground if my place comes to end that's it for me, There are a bunch of us out there. Hopefully one of these days Creek Nation will own that land, we would like to have running water, and some restrooms down there, but it would cause maintenance problems sometimes there are a bunch of kids with red bandanas. They think they are gangsters and vandalize with graffiti." Fixico brought a couple of their Tvstvnvkes with him.

Iron Post (Sand Creek) Mekko Gary Bucktrot said they own their land. He inquired about assistance with sign replacement. So that these grounds wishing to be identified will be. Their ground's main concern is vandalism. He wishes charges can be brought up against them.

Kellyville (Polecat) Mekko Jim Brown and Second Chief Lewis Brown are interested in talking to someone about land issues. The more heirs there are to deal the more complicated it gets, we don't know exactly who owns our land this is our main issue.

Green Leaf Mekko Bill Proctor said we of the ceremonial grounds all know each other and have a pretty close relationship. We all know the concerns out there. Being a Chief is a special honor, sometimes I don't feel that way, people look up to you, show a lot of respect to you. I feel I'm just like any other human being just like every one else. I do a lot of thinking on the ceremonial ground. I'm not a true Green leaf my wife is a true green leaf that's the reason that I'm there. I'm borrowed from there every four years, then I renew the contract. The true Mekkos are the ones that are there for life. Our main concern is the land issue. A long time ago they set a verbal agreement. Some times that does not hold true now days. We (the grounds) all have the same concern, our elders are gone, and the younger generation doesn't understand what its going on out there. We are very fortunate to be at a meeting like this, it shows that Chief Ellis has a lot of concern of keeping the fire going. We need to take care of it, people use to go to these ceremonial grounds and take 'heleswv and wash off'. When you think about it, it does affect those people, you see a lot of people with sickness. If we are going to stay healthy my concern is to keep it going. We have a gift and we've got to keep it going. When your language is gone, it's gone. Right now these Ceremonial Grounds are vital part of keeping it going. The other areas of concern are sanitation issues, due to us not having big containers and not having a concrete slab we have problems. These are some areas that we would need assistance with, each ground has their separate issues. We need to know who to contact, who to talk to about these issues.

Mekko Bill Proctor said he was "glad to be here, we were here a year ago and we really didn't know what to expect at that time I appreciate Chief Ellis for recognizing the ceremonial grounds this is the root of our ancestry."

Green Leaf 's second Chief Jimmy Deere accompanied Mekko Bill Proctor. He echoed the same sentiments as his Mekko and wanted the other grounds to be careful and aware of what is on paper in black and white because it can lose it's meaning on different things.

Tallahassee Wykokaye Mekko David Proctor was unable to attend the meeting. Mekko Proctor has began preparations for their season. Tvstvnvke James Proctor attended in his place to gather information. James gave the history of how Tallahassee Wykokaye came to be today.

All the Mekkos present expressed their sincerest appreciation to Principal Chief Ellis for his concerns of our grounds and his understanding of our way of life. Chief Ellis maintains his belief that the ceremonial grounds are vital to the survival of our culture. Chief Ellis promised to hold next year's meeting in March so it would not interfere with the grounds preparation of the season. The Mekkos were all in agreement of looking forward to the next meeting in March 2006.

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Pediatric Dentist – Okmulgee:

Requirements: Must be eligible for Pediatric Licensure in the state of Oklahoma.

Van Driver (2 positions):

Muskogee ENP and Twin Hills ENP

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler's permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

CEO – Division of Health Administration:

Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities; Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contract Health services. In addition candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the filed.

Secretary for Reintegration Program:

Requirements: Associates in Science Degree with emphasis on Secretarial or Administrative Assistance is preferred or five years relevant work experience in office management. Work experience in an office environment with adult and/or juvenile legal or social services is preferred. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's license and be insurable.

Cook's Aide (3 positions):

Dewar and Sapulpa (part time) and Muskogee (three fourths time)

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent and one year related work experience. Incumbent must possess a valid food handlers permit and a valid Oklahoma State Drivers License and be insurable.

Clinician – Behavioral Health Services:

Requirements: A Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology or related field. One year relevant experience in counseling. LPC, LMFT or LCSW licensure/certifications valid in the State of Oklahoma is preferred. Incumbents who do not possess valid licensure / certifications as specified must be actively working toward obtaining this licensure/certification.

Benefits Coordinator – Human Resources:

Requirements: Associates Degree in a related field of study. A Bachelors Degree is preferred. Two years related experience. Incumbent must possess a current Oklahoma State Drivers License and be insurable.

Human Resources Assistant:

Requirements: Associates Degree in a related field of study. One year relevant experience. Additional experience may be substituted for education. Incumbent must possess a current Oklahoma State Drivers License and be insurable.

Staff Dentist (Part-Time):

Requirements: A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

Pharmacist:

Requirements: A graduate of an accredited college / university of Pharmacy or is a Public Health Service Pharmacy Officer. One year relevant experience as a Pharmacist or PHS Pharmacy Officer. Must possess a current Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy license or current license as required by the PHS Commissioned Corp.

Maintenance Technician:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of training or program in carpentry, building/property maintenance or related field is preferred. One year relevant experience in facility maintenance is required. Relevant professional licenses or certifications related to position are not required but will benefit the incumbent.

Case Manager for the Reintegration Program:

Requirements: A Bachelors Degree in Social. A minimum of four years work experience related to parole supervision or counseling. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Drivers license and be insurable.

Billing Technician:

Requirements: Associates Degree in accounting or a related business field is preferred. One year relevant work experience is required with an Associates Degree. Four years of relevant work experience may be substituted for the educational requirement stated above.

Breast Feeding Peer Counselor (WIC):

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED is required. One year of relevant experience is required. Valid driver's license is required and must be insurable. Incumbent must have a telephone and reliable transportation.

Receptionist - BHS - Sapulpa:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A minimum of one year related experience is required.

Special Projects Officer:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field is required. A minimum of three years relevant experience is required. Substantial relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements Incumbent must possess valid Oklahoma State Driver License and be insurable.

Application Procedures:

Submit a current Division employment application form or resume, (a transfer request form for current employees). All application materials are to be submitted to the attention of the staffing specialist. For further information call Personnel Services at 918-756-4333 Extension 271. The Division is an Equal Opportunity Employer, however, Indian Preference will be applied in the case of equally qualified applicants.

Casino

Muscogee Nation Gaming Security Officer:

Qualifications: Must be at least 21 years of age with high school diploma or equivalent with a valid drivers license Must be able to pass a background check and MMPI within the first 90 days. Must be drug and alcohol free. Creek Indian Preference, but all applicants will be considered.

Submit applications to Muscogee Creek Nation Casino or to Creek Nation Gaming Security P. O. Box 1393, Okmulgee, OK. 74447.

Trade & Commerce

Trade and Commerce is accepting applications for the following:

Travel Plaza - Okmulgee
Travel Plaza - Muskogee
Muscogee Document Imaging
Farm Authority

For more information on employment opportunities at Trade & Commerce contact Alexis at 918-732-7764.

These jobs have an Indian Preference.

Business

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Due to retirements, difficulty in recruiting replacements, and plans for the remote operation of the locks not yet finalized, an innovative solution to providing these services was needed for an interim solution. Working with our Operations Division and a Native American owned 8(a) firm, Tulsa District was able to award a contract to provide these vital services to the public.

Tulsa District's efforts to improve the participation of small business in the District's environmental program were significant.

In March 2004 Tulsa District awarded a Multiple Award Task Order Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Contract (ID/IQ) for paving requirements in our civil works infrastructure. This specialized skill has been contracted for in many ways in years past with limited results. This method allowed us to select three highly qualified HUB zone firms who compete for each task order under the contract umbrella. This process continues to assure the District receives high quality products at reasonable prices.

The District realized that such an ID/IQ would provide the District an outstanding contracting tool — one that the District can use to meet its paving needs throughout the District throughout the contract life. These HUB zone contractors can participate as a prime contractor in lieu of seeking subcontracting opportunities from any number of primes where before paving was typically included as a component in an otherwise varied-task scope of work. This superior, successful, new and innovative approach to targeting functions for ID/IQ contracts has been expanded to include painting, mechanical, and other work as well. The approach provides contracting dollar savings for the government, provides a consistent, quality assured, product for our infrastructure managers, and provides the small, disadvantaged-business contractors with a significant measure of certainty with respect to future contracted work. This certainty allows him to better manage his resources and successfully address our workload requirements.

In April 2004 Tulsa District awarded three multiple award task order contracts for indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity Comprehensive Environmental Contracts (CEC). These contracts cover work in a wide range of environmental services including design, remediation, construction, operation and maintenance activities. These contracts are unique in the broad range of services available and in the three types of businesses available. A "large business" pool of 3 contractors is available within a $200 million ceiling; a "small business" pool of 3 contractors is available within a $60 million ceiling; and, an "8(a) small business" pool of 3 is available within a $40 million ceiling.

Unlike the Total Environmental Remediation Contracts that expired in 2004, the CECs provide a singularly robust opportunity for small businesses to participate as prime contractors under a significantly large contract umbrella in addition to the many, varied subcontracting opportunities available through CEC task orders executed by the large and other small firms. The District's development of the CEC task order evaluation and task order award processes that ensure these small businesses and 8(a) contractors are given full opportunity to engage and participate in Tulsa District's Environmental Mission.

In Aug 2004 Tulsa District awarded a purchase order for cedar clearing at Fort Sill in the amount of $91,000. The uniqueness of this award for a common service was that it was the first Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business Set Aside acquisition ever awarded by the District. The selected firm accomplished the work successfully and this initial award reflects our District's strong commitment and firm support for the Service Disable Veteran-owned Small Business Program.

Tulsa District contracting staff significantly modified an existing contracting tool to create Tulsa District's Performance Oriented Construction Award Contracts (POCA's)—the first such contracting tools in the Corps. In FY04 the District had 5 such contracts in place, all with 8(a) firms, and was working at year's end on 2 additional POCA contracts. This contracting tool has been adopted for use by both the Sacramento and Los Angeles Districts.

These innovative contracting mechanisms provide small businesses new and important opportunities to learn and develop their ability to compete for larger, more complex, ID/IQ type contracted work offered by us and other entities as well. Because the POCAs are task order contracts, the savings to the District's contracting resources (i.e. both time and money) is significant and especially noteworthy given today's economical climate.

Other noteworthy and meritorious accomplishments include the following examples:

The successes in the FY04 Small Business Program were not atypical. In the last three years the Tulsa District has averaged placing $231M in contract awards with an average of 44.99% of those contract dollars with small businesses, 27.88% with small disadvantaged businesses, 18.08% with 8(a) firms, 3.25% with women-owned firms, 12.35% with HUBzone small businesses, and 76.26% of dollars spent with institutions of higher learning to HBCU/MIs.

Tulsa District again excelled in the competitive award of the District's contracts. The District exceeded its goal in this area for the 20th consecutive year, awarding 99.33% of our contract dollars competitively vice a goal of 98%. This achievement underscores the District's commitment to providing opportunity to all businesses, small and non-small, to participate in our work while gaining and building upon the skills necessary to compete in the open market.

Our Chief of Contracting, Mr. Rick Hedrick's service to the Corps of Engineers and the Tulsa District includes four years service as the Deputy for Small Business. His experience and expertise provides the strongest advocate for small businesses outside the District's Small Business Office. His thorough understanding of the Federal Government's commitment to its small business programs coupled with his own personal commitment to maximizing the use of small businesses in executing the District's missions directly and positively impacts on the District's tremendous success in meeting and routinely exceeding Army goals for its Small Business Programs.

The Deputy for Small Business, Ms. Yolane Hartsfield, participates in numerous small business conferences, workshops, and seminars in support of the Small Business Administration, the Oklahoma Small Business Development Centers, the Oklahoma and Texas Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (including Oklahoma's Bid Assistance Network providers). She has developed educational programs and taught to industry on such subjects as marketing small business to the COE, understanding the COE contracting processes, understanding the COE contracting tools, and how the COE missions and small businesses can team to execute our local, regional, and national missions.

The Tulsa District works diligently to be accessible to small business firms. For example, Ms. Hartsfield and Mr. Hedrick routinely open their office for one on one meetings with small business representatives. Their insights, expertise, and experience provide these small business leaders with tools to effectively, and successfully, work with the Corps of Engineers. One of the questions they invariably asks of small businesses is "If you could choose the first project to do for the Tulsa District to demonstrate your company's skills and abilities, what would it be?" This question causes the small business to focus on their core capabilities. One small business in FY04 took this question home and that company and its employees engaged themselves for the year in answering that question. They reported that answering this question transformed their company. They stated they had restructured and refocused their business plans and marketing approach – and had already begun to see the positive fruits of that labor.

Work at the Tulsa District is varied, challenging and accessible to small businesses. The first step is contacting the Tulsa District's Small Business Office at 918-669-7530.

Native American Funeral Home
210 E. First St. ~ Bristow, OK 74010
918-367-1045

Service with Love, Honor & Respect

H.D. & R.D. Griffin
Indian Owned & Operated

Dana West
Funeral Director

Tribal casino sums to be made public

The Oklahoman

"The public will be allowed to see documents showing how much money each tribe makes from certain casino games," said State Finance Director Scott Meacham.

Meacham said he sought a legal opinion last month, when the first dollars began pouring in from passage of State Question 712, whether he could release the amount paid to the state by each tribe. Those figures help indicate how much tribes make from certain electronic gambling machines and table games such as poker and blackjack.

An assistant attorney general told Meacham that the payments are subject to the state's Open Records Act. Meacham said no tribes have raised concerns about the issue since voters approved SQ 712, the racetrack casino measure that also expanded tribal gaming. Tribes only have to report revenue figures from games covered by that new law.

Meacham said he hasn't asked whether the Open Records Act covers similar payments for casino games at three pari-mutuel horse tracks. Their payments could more reasonably be construed as taxes, so they may not be public, he said.

The total received by his office for February revenues was $304,352, all from table games at tribal casinos. Electronic games covered under the new law haven't been installed yet. Meacham said the Cherokee Nation paid about $236,000 of the total.

Brian Foster, chairman of the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association, objects to tribal revenue figures being made public. "It's a sovereignty issue," said Foster, who also manages two Lucky Star casinos for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. "I don't think any tribe wants their business public," he said. Foster's concern isn't shared by every gaming tribe, however.

Bob Rabon, general counsel for the Choctaw Nation, said tribal officials always assumed casino revenue figures would be open to public inspection once the compacts took effect. "That's how you arrive at what the (state) fees are," Rabon said. "I don't think they would object to it."

He said many tribes, including the Choctaws, may want to keep certain records private, such as the amount spent for casino advertising and public relations. But as for casino profits, Rabon said, "It just seems to me that ... it should be public information as to what the bottom line is, what number you use to arrive at the percentage to be paid to the State of Oklahoma."

Rick Grellner, who represents several smaller tribes, noted that under the 1988 federal law covering Indian gaming, financial records are considered proprietary information. During a congressional investigation almost a decade ago, federal regulators sided with the industry to keep those records private, Grellner said.

Creek Nation Casino – Tulsa: April Promos

Spring Fling Chrysler Sebring

Mondays, March 7th through May 23rd, 6 pm to 10 pm

Spring is here! Just in time for warm weather driving, Creek Nation Casino's new Ladies Night gives you the chance to drive away in America's trendiest convertible. Back by popular demand, we are continuing with the drawings for fifteen seconds in the money machine. Make sure you grab as much of the flying money as you can, because the two players who come out with the most cash each Monday will get a key that could start up a 2005 Chrysler Sebring convertible on May 23rd!

KQLL 70's Happy Hour

Tuesdays, 4 pm – 6 pm

Join us for a groovy time at Creek Nation Casino –Tulsa every Tuesday from 4 pm -6 pm for our 70's Happy Hour party! Stop by the Players Club to get your coupon for your choice of onion rings, french fries, corn dogs, or Pop Rocks for just 70 cents!

Boatloads of Bucks

Wednesdays, March 9th through June 1st, 6 pm to 10 pm

Men, excitement is truly in the air! The ladies are going wild over the money machine drawings, and now you have the opportunity to take on the whirlwind of flying money! Come out to Creek Nation Casino on Wednesday nights to win your shot at fifteen seconds in the money machine. The two players collecting the most cash each Wednesday will receive a key, and on June 1, one lucky winner will float out of here on a 2005 Boat!

Thirsty Thursdays

Thursdays through May 5th, 6 pm to 10 pm

Join us Thursday evenings from 6 pm - 10 pm as KHITS 106.9 FM, Pepsi and Creek Nation Casino present Thirsty Thursdays. Imagine living it up in Vegas, sitting in front of a new Flat Screen TV or a wallet full of cash! It can happen, but only if you join us for Thirsty Thursdays. Pepsi will provide the beverages, KHITS will provide the tunes and Creek Nation Casino will provide some serious cash. Make sure you are one of the first 106 people in the door each Thursday night to receive your FREE official Thirsty Thursdays T-Shirt, your ticket to cash and fabulous prizes!

NASCAR 2005 Cash for the Cup

Weekly through November 20, 2005

Start your engines and race on in to Creek Nation Casino for the excitement of NASCAR racing! Here's your shot at over $100,000 in cash and prizes, including two Tony Stewart edition Monte Carlos! Play against Chris Plank from KTBZ 1430 AM for weekly cash prizes, a NASCAR Special Edition Car and a trip to the 2006 Daytona 500. Who else is going to reward you for your excellent NASCAR knowledge?

Government delays gaming rules

The Oklahoman

The federal agency regulating Indian casinos has shelved new rules designed to control the proliferation of certain electronic games like those found in Oklahoma. However, industry sources said that decision will have little effect here, now that state voters have authorized a new form of tribal casino gambling.

In a news release Friday, the National Indian Gaming Commission announced an indefinite postponement of public hearings that were to take place this month in Oklahoma City, San Diego and Washington. The agency said it wants to wait until "interested parties" can study the changes.

The decision comes two weeks after the U.S. Justice Department told the commission that Congress — not the regulatory agency — should make the changes. Millions upon millions of dollars is at stake for tribes and their casino partners, including electronic machine makers and casino management companies.

The proposed changes concern complicated technical standards for machines classified as Class II gambling. Under federal law, Class II must be based on bingo or pull tabs. However, critics claim that through the years, games have strayed far from that requirement. Concerns about the rule changes were instrumental in Oklahoma's tribes agreeing to pay the state a portion of their profits as part of a compact.

The compacting process, approved by state voters in November, allowed tribal casinos to offer faster machines and tournament-style card games. Federal regulators "were going to make the (Class II) games much less attractive to players," said Bob Rabon, general counsel for the Choctaw Nation and a key figure in last year's compact negotiations.

Some industry officials concluded that the new rules would have eliminated all of the games in Oklahoma and replaced them with slower, less profitable knockoffs.

Only a few Oklahoma tribes still offer Class II games.

National Indian Gaming Association begins media credentialing for trade show

SAN DIEGO, C.A. — The National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) announced on-line media credentialing has begun for the organization's annual trade show and convention, which will be held this year at the San Diego Convention Center from April 10-13.

The theme of this year's convention, *Tribal Government Gaming: Rebuilding Communities through Indian Self-Reliance*, will feature remarks from California Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante, NIGA chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr., and former U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Cambell.

Journalists and media organizations can go to http://www.indiangaming.org/info/pr/credentials/shtml to fill out an application or to obtain more information about this year's convention.

Adult tobacco survey in your community

OKMULGEE — In an effort to better understand the effects of smoking within the Mvskoke people, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program (TPP) Support Centers for Tobacco Programs will be conducting comprehensive Adult Tobacco Surveys (ATS) in tribal communities.

The Tobacco Prevention Program is one of seven Center of Disease Control and Prevention Tribal Support Centers in the United States. Six of the Support Centers will conduct the Adult Tobacco Survey in one to three tribes/tribal communities in their area. Those Support Centers participating include Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairman's Health Board, Alaska Native Health Board, California Rural Indian Health Board, Intertribal Council of Michigan, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Participating tribal communities have actively collaborated with TPP in the overall project development and implementation, including but not limited to survey design, staff recruitment and data collection activities.

TPP will collect approximately 400 completed ATS of enrolled tribal members 18 years of age and older that live within the Creek Nation boundaries. The TPP will be responsible for obtaining the completed surveys. Trained individuals from each of the respective communities will conduct the face-to-face surveys.

Tobacco has many medicinal, spiritual and practical uses. These ceremonial and cultural uses for tobacco differ from the habitual uses of commercial tobacco products. Hence, it is important to further evaluate the reasons for habitual use of commercial tobacco among specific tribal populations and to uncover other tobacco-related information.

To date, no conclusive tobacco use studies have been done specifically for distinct tribal communities. The high prevalence of tobacco use, its serious health consequences and lack of attention paid to tobacco use and abuse in AI/AN populations supports the need to implement a comprehensive and culturally relevant Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS).

This survey will empower the TPP to effectively gather tobacco specific data related to their citizens. This data can further be used to direct program planning and evaluation, to determine health priorities and to develop specific intervention strategies and policies, which target relevant subgroups. It will also enable us to use our much dwindling resource dollars more effectively.

Prior to the Adult Tobacco Survey Administration, work continued with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) conducting pretesting in MCN communities, which consist of focus groups and cognitive interviews. Whereas the original ATS was pretested before, pretesting is necessary because the original ATS has been significantly revised to accommodate use with AI/AN populations.

The final AI/AN ATS instrument(s) will include issues of tobacco use that are unique to the Native population, such as ceremonial use. Trained American Indian interviewers will contact potential respondents and invite them to participate in the survey. If they agree to participate, they will have the consent form read to them and sign the form to indicate consent. Each interview will require about thirty to sixty minutes to administer and respondents will be compensated for the interview with a $25 gift card from Wal-Mart. Each respondent will be provided with an explanation of the purpose, general content and time commitment involved in completing the survey with assurance of confidentiality. Each prospective respondent will be given the opportunity to ask any questions at the time of the interview and will be provided with the name and contact information of the Interview Supervisor and/or the Project Coordinator who can answer any questions before and after the interview is completed. Respondents will have the option to decline participation and/or refuse to answer any specific question without loss of health care benefits or services.

All data collected during the surveys will be held in the strictest confidence at all times by the interviewers, the ATS Project Coordinators and TPP Staff. To ensure privacy and confidentiality of survey respondents, no personal identifiers will be collected during the interviews. Once interviews are completed and the responses have been verified for completeness and internal consistency, all links to personal information will be destroyed. No individual will be identifiable in any reports that are prepared based on the results of the survey.

Tribes surveyed will acquire ownership of the ATS data. The survey results will provide tribes and health projects with data on their adult members' knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and behaviors regarding tobacco use in each of these communities to enhance already existing programs.

Whether you use tobacco or not, if you would like to participate in this historic and one of a kind survey please fill out and mail the following information. You don't need a telephone to participate, TPP can contact you by regular mail. Your name will be added to a pool of participants and if you are selected to participate in this survey you will receive a $25 gift card from Wal-Mart. For more information, call the Tobacco Prevention Program office at 756-6231.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Adult Tobacco Survey

918-756-6231 116 North Grand Street, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

Reply Postcard

Please return this card to indicate your willingness to help with this survey.

Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

Telephone____________________________

Best date & time to contact you: ________________

I prefer to set up a survey interview by: ____ Telephone ____ Letter

New Logo for Camp Cvfeknetv

STROUD — The Camp Cvfeknetv Committee has selected this year's logo with the help of Holly Watashe and the OSU-Okmulgee's Graphic Design Department.

Holly Watashe, is a 17 year old senior at Stroud High School. She is Muscogee, Yuchi, Otoe-Missouri and Ponca descent. Holly has attended Camp Cvfeknetv from for the past four years. Ms. Watashe's winning art work was voted on by her fellow campers at last year's camp. The camp committee asked the OSU-Graphics department if they could add some special touches to Ms. Watashe's logo.

There were a total of five students, whom Mr. Jobe, the Graphic Instructor, asked to take part in the art work. Upon completion of the assignment, the committee viewed all art work to decide on the logo that would be used for this year's Camp Cvfeknetv. The students who took part are Adam Weatherly, Stephanie Cox, Andrea Steele, Don Hensley and Nick Jurik.

The committee voted on using Mr. Jurik's logo. When asked what his vision was, Mr. Jurik's explained that "I am a Graphic Design major at OSU-Okmulgee. I am in my fifth semester and I will graduate in December. With the design I wanted to create a strong image that was original to Camp Cvfeknetv. Since we did have limitations on the colors and imagery we could use, I decided to incorporate a very loose, "splattered paint" kind style to give the design a unique feel. I also applied this style to the "hand" logo in order to give it a more updated feel. "While this project was a bit of a challenge, I enjoyed working on it very much."

please see **HEALTH**..., page 22

Creek Nation revives Agricultural Program

It's a week night and late winter in northeastern Oklahoma. The promise of a sunny and warm spring is just around the corner, but the cold dark reminder of a strong, harsh wind is still very much alive. Most people at this time are just glad to get into their warm, safe haven and settle down for the evening. But children will be out late tonight. Some with their parents, others with guardians or close relatives. And they will be around what looks like a carnival type setting, all with bright lights, maybe a little good food, and loud men booming numbers out of makeshift audio system.

The majority of the youth will sport a familiar look to Oklahomans everywhere, some will have the traditional kelly green corduroy jacket with a four leaf clover insignia sewed on the back and a capital 'H' on all four leaves inside it. Older kids will don the dark blue jacket, again corduroy, that proudly bares the words 'FFA' with the announcement of the child's hometown also sewn on the back. The stage will be set in buildings filled with hay and the headliners will not necessarily be the kids themselves but their furry four legged counter parts.

From (left to right) Brittany Miles from Kellyville, Tyler Thayer from Sapulpa and Reba McCarty from Kellyville meet with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Executive Director, Claude Sumner at the Creek County Livestock Show.

The kids will come from all over the county, all for the chance to show what they have put a year's worth of sweat, care and hard work into it. Ages stemming from the elementary, junior high and high school. And the projects they have committed themselves toward are openly displayed before an adoring and judgemental audience.

Each year, the various County 4-H extension programs and Future Farmers of America, (FFA) hold their spring livestock show and auction, an event that allows children of the area to present various livestock and sell their special items to the highest bidder.

Before the bidding process, animals are judged specifically by studious judges who know what they are looking for. A wrong stance, or shiny coat can make all the difference in the world.

"At the spring livestock show that's where the 4-H and FFA kid exhibit their animals that they have been raising and taking care of", said Andrea Buck, Okmulgee County Family Consumer Services director and 4-H extension director. "They (animals) are judged and put in a sale order and only the best of the best make it to the sale or auction," said Buck.

People from the community representing several businesses and organizations are invited to come and bid on selected animals from the show.

Of the many children that take part in the enterprising program, many are Muscogee (Creek) citizens. Monica Culley, a junior high student from Okmulgee won the title of Grand Champion for her sheep that she had raised. Tyler Thayer of Sapulpa also won Grand Champion for his sheep, one that he names 'Spaz'. Only the top 16 will make the make the actual sale, so it is a very special night for all the children. Muscogee (Creek) children will certainly make their animals, and name, known tonight.

KMULGEE COUNTY 20
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Monica Culley, with Principal Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill at the Okmulgee County Livestock show and auction

The night of the Okmulgee County Spring Auction, Culley's sheep was bided on by the admiring crowd. In attendance were Muscogee (Creek) Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill. Ellis and Berryhill are awarded the highest bidders. But as in regular auctions of this type, they are not exactly given the item.

"The animals aren't actually bought," explained Buck, who has been serving since September, "the people bidding are doing so to give a donation to the child raising the prized animal.

Kurt Rose, Sapulpa Agricultural Educational Instructor at Sapulpa said the kids also win awards and use the money for another animal for next year. "The money is also used for scholarships for next year," Rose explains.

Thayer is very happy that his animal is judged as one of the best, and he plans on continuing in the program that many confess is such a "confidence builder" to many of the kids.

Representatives of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation have made an effort to attend local spring auction shows to bid on Grand Champions raised by Muscogee (Creek) children. Claude Sumner, Executive Director of the tribe, feels the program helps the kids tremendously. "It (program) gives the kids good responsibility and helps them to be accountable." Sumner won the highest bid for Spaz. After the local livestock shows are finished, the Creek livestock owners will take their animals to the Oklahoma Youth expo sale in Oklahoma City to be permanently sold. The expo is the largest livestock show in the nation.

Tribe to Establish Youth Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has decided establish a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Youth Agriculture Program. The goals would include involving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal citizens youth in learning the methods and techniques of raising and managing animals as well as growing vegetable gardens.

The program will be in lieu of a 4-H program, which has had a long standing recognition of unique programs and opportunities.

The Youth program will be created to coordinate 4-H and other agriculture programs as needed.

The current 4-H program operates on a volunteer basis with a single coordinator provided by the Oklahoma State University Agriculture Department. While the program is and has been funded by special appropriations of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, this Youth Agriculture Program would enhance the initial 4-H program established in 1993 and become a permanent department to serve Creek youth citizens interested in the Youth Agriculture Program.

The goals would also include providing training for health, home and social standards. The program will serve Creek youth from the ages of 9 to 19.

The program will also be expected to produce measurable results to demonstrate a need for continuity in agricultural activities toward becoming a self-sustaining program.

Some very important and advantageous differences are that the program would be staffed by Creek citizens and employees. This provides a Youth Agriculture Program that will be more directly accountable and responsible to the Executive branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. These two factors have become more important as the program continues to grow, because there are demands for more expensive and costly equipment and vehicles which need to remain under the tribal inventory due to liability and insurance requirements.

Also, the current 4-H program has now requested and received approval to use tribal land and property through a Land Use Agreement. The current agreement expires September 30, 2004. Due to the nature of needs and operations of the Youth Agriculture Program it must comply with local and county environmental laws as well as those of the tribe. The restrictions contained therein go beyond the level of decision making expected of a 4-H program volunteer coordinator, therefore, replacing the Land Use Agreement with tribal authority and supervision appears more logical and appropriate.

Spotlight

"Oklahoma has lost a genuine hero with the passing of Lt. Col. Ernest Childers. His life was and is a true inspiration."

Ernest Childers 1918-2005

by Gerald Wofford

We tend to seek very little how, but ask much more why? All the strong people in our life go away, and our heroes have to die?

The last three months have seen the Muscogee (Creek) Tribe lose some of its very prominent such as former National Council Speaker Ken Childers, National Council members Irene Cleghorn and Jess Kelley, as well as grant writer, Dr. Leola Taylor.

The Nation also lost one of its most historical and popular figures ever. Retired Lieutenant Colonel Ernest Childers passed away on Thursday, March 17 at the age of 87.

Childers was the only member of the tribe to ever receive the Congressional Medal of Honor and only one of five Native Americans to be recognized with such distinction. Childers' heroic actions came as a young soldier in World War II.

"Oklahoma has lost a genuine hero with the passing of Lt. Col. Ernest Childers," said Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry. "His life was and is a true inspiration."

In a 1999 interview with the *Muscogee Nation News*, Childers talked about that heroic day which fell on September 22, 1943 as well his exploits are looked at again.

Ernest Childers was born on February 1, 1918 in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. He grew up on a farm that was part of his father's original Creek allotment. Childers grew up in a Christian home, attending church at Springtown Indian Church about ten miles north of Coweta. In high school, he attended Chilocco Indian School.

Childers, as well as other Indian students, sought ways to better themselves financially and saw joining the Oklahoma National Guard as that opportunity. The Indian boys at Chilocco had their own group, Company C, or Charlie Company of the 45th Infantry division. 'The Fighting Thunderbirds' was the division's nickname. These Indian boys would become part of a unique fighting group. Upon the liberation of Sicily in WW II, General George S. Patton would pay them the ultimate honor. "Born at sea, baptized in blood, your fame will never die. You are one of the best, if not the best division in the history of American arms."

After the liberation of Sicily, the allied trekked northward into Italy and began to break the Nazi stronghold there. Childers moment would soon be upon him.

Actually Childers', moment began badly, he had fractured his foot when he stepped into a shell crater on a concrete bridge. He was unable to walk and crawled towards an aid station. As he crawled, he encountered an enemy machine gun. He pointed out the position to another soldier who killed the enemy gunner. When he finally arrived at the aid station, he was told to wait outside. As he waited, the aid station was blown up by a direct hit.

Childers decided to double back, as he was crawling he spotted a hill with enemy fire coming from it. Childers decided to climb the hill and attack. As he climbed over one terrace he spotted part of the enemy in an old stone building. They exchanged fire, "I finally got him," said Childers. "He stuck his head out when he shouldn't have."

Afterwards, Childers ordered a group of his men to circle around the hill and attack. He then climbed onward. Once again he came under enemy fire. As Childers tried to seek shelter, his hand fell on a rock, out of anger he threw the rock at the enemy. "I assume they thought it was a hand grenade, because nobody throws rocks."

Childers killed the first enemy member who jumped out and helped killed the second. As he looked toward the top of the hill, he could see another machine gunner. Childers inched forward and was able to continue climbing under enemy fire until the enemy machine gunner could not depress his gun any lower. Childers shot and killed the rifleman guarding the machine gunner, then crawled closer and killed the gunner. He captured an enemy mortar observer at the ridge of the hill, turned the prisoner over to another soldier, and fired on the remainder of the enemy which was fleeing.

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty in action, Second Lieutenant Ernest Childers was awarded the Medal of Honor on April 8, 1944. The young Creek boy from Oklahoma would have his life changed forever.

He was sent to Washington, D.C. to meet President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Childers described the Commander-In-Chief as pleasant and a very capable leader.

As the years passed, Childers would obtain the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He would train young recruits for future events such as the Korean and Vietnam Wars. In 1965, Ernest Childers would retire from the military. A remarkable career had come to an end.

"The American Indian has only one country, and when you're picked on, the American Indian never turns his back," Childers proudly proclaimed.

Creek Nation Festival 2005 schedule of events, entry fee and application deadlines

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Festival will be held June 16 (evening) through 19 at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

All entry fees should be paid by cashier's check or money order unless otherwise stated and payable to "Creek Nation Festival Committee."

Junior Olympics

The junior Olympics will begin at 8:30 a.m., June 17 at Harmon stadium.

The deadline for registration is May 27. No late entries will be accepted, no exceptions. Volunteers are needed for this event.

For more information, contact Dawn Edward at (918) 732-7869 or 1-800-521-5432.

All Indian Rodeo

The Rodeo will be held June 17 and 18 starting at 7 p.m. nightly. Entry Fees are $75 for all events, $75 per man for team roping, and $20 for Junior events.

Prizes will be $1000 for senior events, added, $2,000 for team roping, added, and $200 for jr. events, added.

For more information, contact Bob Arrington at (918) 732-7652.

Pageantry

The coordinator for the Muscogee Nation Scholarship pageant is Virginia Thomas. Senior Misses and Little Miss Mvskoke pageant events will be held at 10 a.m., June 4 at Covelle Hall on the OSU-Okmulgee campus. Miss Mvskoke and junior miss Mvskoke pageant events will be held at 7 p.m., June 3 also at Covelle Hall.

The age groups for all categories are miss Mvskoke, ages 17 to 22 and must be a high school graduate; junior miss, ages 14 to 17; senior misses, ages 55 years and older, little miss division I, ages four to six; division II, ages seven to nine; division III, ages 10 to 13. Participants must be at least one-fourth Muscogee (Creek).

The deadline date for applications is May 6 by 5 p.m. For more information, contact Virginia Thomas at (918) 732–7839 or Jeri Brandon at (918) 732-7843 or 1-800–482–1979.

Festival Food and Arts and Crafts Vendors

Omniplex booth space rental fees for vendors are: one weekend, $200 & both weekends, $250 for food and arts and crafts are: for authentic, $75 and non-authentic $125, with or without electricity.

Space location is secured through payment of rental fees and will be granted on a first-come-first-serve basis. No personal checks accepted, no exceptions.

For information on food vendors, contact Melissa Ambler at (918) 732-7935. For information on arts & crafts contact, Melinda Taylor at (918) 732–7727.

Gospel singing

The Gospel singing will be held at the OSU Extension Building, on June 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the Okmulgee County Fair Grounds.

Approximately 15 minutes, enough time for three songs, will be allotted to each group or soloist. Key board, cd/tape player, and drums will be provided. Five microphones will also be available. Please provide your own guitar.

Featured singers/groups include: Gospel Lights, Taylor Osborn, Joe Baker, Bart Kelly and Jenna Gouge.

For more information, contact Thompson Gouge at 732–7711.

Stomp Dance

The stompdance will be held June 16 at 7 p.m. in front of the stage area at the Omniplex.

Drawing for prizes will include: pendleton chairs, ballsticks and cans.

For more information, contact David Proctor at 756-8504.

3 on 3 Basketball

The 3 on 3 basketball tournament will begin on June 18. The entry fee will be $60 per team.

Deadline for registration will be June 13 at noon. For more information, contact Micco Freeman at (918) 759-0605.

Volley Ball

The Volleyball Tournament is Saturday, June 18. Entry fee is $65 with a eight person roster.

Prizes will be awarded for first through fourth place. Deadline for entries will be June 10.

For more information, contact Christine Denny at (918) 296-3331 or Randall Hicks at (918) 732-7964.

Men & Women's Fast Pitch

Men's and Women's fastpitch will begin on June 17. The non-refundable entry fee is $175.00 and due by June 3.

For more information, contact Ruby Booker at 1-800-482-1979, ext. 7927.

Co-Ed Slow Pitch

Co-Ed slow pitch softball tournament will be starting June 17. The nonrefundable entry fee is $165. Awards will be given to first through third in men & women's divisions and co-ed awards will be given to first through fourth place teams and individual. Homerun derby will be held also. Balls will be provided.

For more information, contact Victor Bear at (918) 261-2315.

Church Mushball Adult/Youth

A touch of Indian Falls Creek has made its way to this year's festival. The Mushball Tournament will start on June 18. The non-refundable entry fee is $50 in cashiers check or money order payable to the Creek Nation Festival. Deadline is June 3.

For more information, contact Victor Bear at (918) 261-2315.

Golf Tournament

A Golf tournament will be held on June 17 through 19 at Fountainhead Golf Course in Eufaula.

A scramble will begin on June 17 with registration by eleven. Open to the public. Saturday players are responsible for scheduling tee times. Must be Native American to participate. On Sunday there will be a 8 a.m. shotgun start.

For more information or to register, contact Bret Hayes at (918) 681-0918 or Perry Anderson at (918) 732-7830 or Bert Robison at (918) 689-2547 or Fountainhead Golf Course at (918) 689-3209.

Concerts

The concert is scheduled to begin on Friday, June 17 at 6:00 with the following performers: Fiddlin' Buddy Streight, Roger Tillson band, BadWater, Brandon Jenkins. The headliner will be Junior Brown.

Saturday 's performers will be: Home Brewd, Cecil Gray & Red Dawn, Chebon Tiger, Chris Zalez, Jimmy "Junior" Markham, Wayne 'the train' Hancock. The headliner will be Leon Russell.

All concerts and times are subject to change. For more information, contact Barney Ingram at (918) 756-3571.

Horseshoe Tournament

A horseshoe tournament will be held on June 18 with registration beginning at 8 a.m.

For more information contact Larry Soweka at (918) 752–3262.

5K Run or Walk

The 5K run/walk will be on June 18 at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Complex. Entry fee through June 17 is $15 or $20 on race day (includes t-shirt) or $10 without t-shirt.

Limited number of shirts available. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the race begins at 8:00 a.m. Water will be provided.

For more information, contact Lila Garrett at 732–7862.

Celebration of Traditional Mvskoke Arts

On June 18, adults can enjoy a juried traditional art competition, master artist show and sale and Dawes Commission Cards Symposium while children can be a rabbit or turtle in an interactive storytelling workshop, learn Pow Wow and Stomp dances, play a game of stickball, or make a clay pot, cane basket, or beaded bracelet to take home.

For further information, call the museum 756–2324.

Living Legends nominations

To nominate a "Living Legend" please pick up a form from the Principal Chief's office. The deadline to enter is May 20th.

For more information, call the Principal Chief's office at (918) 732-7605.

March District Court filings

Marriage License:
None

Protective Orders:
None

Criminal - Misdemeanor:
None

Criminal - Felonies:
•MCN v. Berryhill: Jim Thorpe
Ct. 1: Embezzlement, Theft & False Accounts
•MCN v. Cauthon: Kevin
Ct. 1: Poss. Of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
•MCN v. Johnston: Kim
Ct. 1: Poss. Of Illegal Drug w/intent to distribute
Ct. 2: Poss. Of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
Ct. 3: Reckless Endangerment
•MCN v. Walton: Orvil
Ct. 1: Poss. Of Illegal Drugs

Traffic:
•Furr: Sagrean Nichole
Ct. 1: Driving w/o required registration
•Furr: Lester
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Brandon: Noconi Luke
Ct. 1: Failure to stop for stop sign
•Adamson: Roger Lee
Ct. 1: Driving w/o required registration
•Boyce: Russell Roger
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Sharp: Tracie
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Jones: Christopher
Ct. 1: Trespassing
•Bogle: Michael
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Strickland: Jason
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Poindexter: Ronald
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Burchett: Matthew
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Rhodes: Fred Andrew
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Palmer: Stephanie
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Shields: Joshua
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
•Shields: Joshua
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
• Shields: Joshua
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct

Divorce:
None

Civil/Small Claims:
•Security Finance v. Francis: Hannah
Small Claims
•Lee: Alisha Marie v. Speir: Brandon
Petition for Child Custody
•Royal Finance v. Scott: Raymond
Small Claims
•Citizen's Security Inc. v. Gibson: Kimberly
Foreign Judgment

Family Domestic:
•Tribal Child Support Enforcement, Ex. Rel. Jessica M. Trujillo v. Davy R. Hill, Fr.
•TCSE, Ex. Rel. Anne M. Murphy v. Earl J. Poole, Jr.
•TCSE, Ex. Rel. Miranda B. Bush v. Nelson S. Harjo, Jr.
•TCSE, Ex. Rel. Alice L. Wilson v. Lonell E. Fultz
•TCSE, Ex. Rel. Nicole Johnson v. LeRoy Tilley
•TCSE, Ex. Rel. Lynda A. Perry v. Maurice Yahola
•TCSE, Ex. Rel. Nichole L. Zipfel v. Larry L. Bird

Moore

continued from page 3

During the Green Corn ceremonies all participants dressed in white, the Mekko adorned with a headdress made of duck skin surmounted with white feathers. The honored warriors faces and torsos were painted red.

The moccasins worn by both sexes were made of either deer or bison leather and ornamented to the satisfaction of the wearer. There was no prohibition from going barefoot at any time weather and terrain permitting. The hunter/warrior would often carry more than one pair of moccasins when on an expedition and would often stitch another layer of leather to the moccasin for a reinforced sole.

European contact radically changed clothing material available and greatly expanded styles used in the Muscogee Confederacy as both the men and women took advantage of these new clothing materials from Europe.

Health

continued from page 18

The camp committee would also like to acknowledge last year's OSU Okmulgee Graphics Department student's whose logo was chosen for Camp Cvfeknetv, Rick Hatheway and Paul Welch.

Family Diabetes Prevention Camp 2005

HENRYETTA — We are approaching the time for our family diabetes camp, scheduled May 23-26, at Rhema Ranch. The camp is located east of Henryetta, off Pierce Road exit on I-40.

We are inviting American Indians families who have a history of diabetes and: receive their health care within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System or live within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries. Past participants are encouraged to submit applications, but due to limited space first preference will be given to first time applicants. Call 1-800-782-8291 ext 237 for registration information.

Weight loss program begins *by Natalie Seabolt, RD/LD*

SAPULPA — A group of Native American women are participating in the new weight loss program provided by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Clinics called "Healthy Directions". "Healthy Directions" is a weight loss program that focuses on lifestyle changes and caring for the whole person, not just the extra weight.

Written by Mary Gilmore, a registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator, the program was developed to help people lose weight through lifestyle adjustments and keep it off for life. Ms. Gilmore wanted to create a tool to help those whose extra weight has created additional health problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and joint problems. She works at a hospital in Mississippi, one of the states with the highest rate of obesity. She only sells her program to registered and licensed dietitians because she believes that medical management is a crucial part to healthy weight loss. The program consists of support group meetings every 2-3 weeks. During meetings, the members are weighed, led through a lesson on various topics and awarded prizes based on weight loss or attendance drawings. The lessons cover topics such as exercise, good food choices, self-esteem and relationships. Most lessons are taught by the dietitian at that particular clinic, but some guest speakers are brought in to speak on their area of expertise.

Sapulpa Clinic has held meetings for almost three months and started a new class on April 14th. Eufaula, Okemah and Okmulgee clinics have also started their first group of participants. Most clinics are holding a noon time and an evening session so that all patients and staff may participate.

Participants must have an established chart at one of the MCN clinics or be an employee at the clinic, have seen a doctor in the last year and be ready to make changes to improve their health. Call the Diabetes department at your clinic for more information.

Blue Eagle Solutions
To prevent Neuropathy contact your diabetes care provider
Eliminating Diabetic Amputations
Treatments available at Okemah Indian Health Center Diabetes Prevention & Management Program or Contact your Diabetes Care provider
Neuro-Care
FDA & Medicare Approved
Mariah Lee,
President & CEO
9926 E. 55th Pl., Suite D
Tulsa, OK 74146
E-Mail: msullilee@aol.com
Phone: 918.630-3543
Fax: 918-665-1944
Featured in May 2004 issue of Muscogee Nation News

STELLA WESLEY

FT. GIBSON — Funeral services for Stella Watson Wesley were held February 24 at Shurden Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Gene Harjo officiating.

She was born March 25, 1907 near Bryant to McDaniel Watson and Louise Byrd Watson.

She grew up in the Henryetta area, attended school at Dwight Mission Boarding School at Vian, Euchee Boarding School near Sapulpa for several years and later attended the Chilocco Indian Boarding School in Arkansas City, Kansas for three years before returning to the Henryetta area.

On September 2, 1927, she married Santa Wesley in Dustin. She became a homemaker and spent the majority of her life raising her family and helping her husband with farming duties. Stella moved to Ft. Gibson in 1980. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Sapulpa.

She was preceded in death by: her husband who died in 1972; an infant son and another son, Daniel Kenneth Wesley who died in 1954; 2 grandchildren, Lesse Marie Hogner and James Wesley Degan; 1 sister and 2 brothers.

Survivors include: her daughter, Virginia Eaves of Kansas City, Kansas; daughters, Atheline Farron of Portland, Oregon and Lydia Hogner of Ft. Gibson; grandchildren, Mona Ellis, Sandra Adair, David Hogner, Karen Farren Fisher, Max and Wesley Farron; 9 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great grandchildren; nephew, Rev. Watson of Dewar; niece, Juanita Field Dunson of Henryetta.

Pallbearers include: David and Aaron Hogner, Matthew and Daniel Ellis, Soloman Adair and Robert Meeks.

Honorary Pallbearers were: Pete Riley, Richard Hicks, David, Marty and Daryl Dunson.

Interment was at the Dustin Cemetery.

IDA MICCO

WELTY — Funeral services for Ida Micco were held February 26 at Grant Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. Will Gordon officiating.

She was born on December 15, 1909 in Okfuskee County to Fagie Bluford and Susanna Conner.

Ida was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Goldie Micco, 6 brothers and one sister.

Survivors include: sister , Leah Billey of Paden, 3 nephews and 1 niece.

Interment was at the Grant Cemetery in Welty.

AMOS CHUPCO

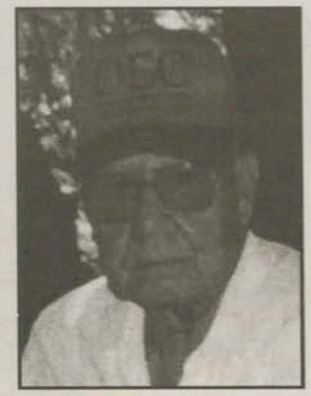
SEMINOLE — Funeral services for Amos Thomas Chupco were held February 25 at the Hilltop Presbyterian Church with Elder Kelly Tiger and Jerry Baker officiating.

He was born March 10, 1924 to James and Bettie Thomas Chupco.

Amos married Lucille Tiger on Oct. 10, 1950 in Ft. Bragg, North Carolina and lived his whole life in Seminole County, except for the time he served in the military.

He served in the U.S. Army and retired Sept. 1, 1965. He served for 20 years with the Airborne Division, including the 82nd Airborne, 101st Airborne, 187 Regimental Combat and 12 air assaults. Amos was also a master parachutist.

Following his retirement from General Motors as an inspector in 1991, he then worked at the Seminole Wrangler plant in the maintenance department for four years.



Chupco

Preceding him in death were: his parents; son, James Chupco Sr.; brother, James Chupco Jr.; and two sisters, Nancy Frank and Rachel Walker.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; daughter, Phyllis Platta of Mescalero, New Mexico; seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Pallbearers include: Roger and Ronnie Frank, Sandy Walker, Albert Platta Sr., Joel Luna Jr. and Michael Fish.

Honorary pallbearers include: Kenneth Taryole, Charles Chupco, Kenna Harjo and Steve Ruedy.

Interment was held at the Achena Cemetery.

EMMA MARSHALL

BIXBY — Funeral services for Emma C. Marshall were held February 15 at the Leonard and Marker Funeral Home with Rev. John Fixico and Rev. Jimmy Alexander officiating.

Emma was born August 24, 1915 to Willie and Ella Brown Carr.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; husband, Jimmy J. Marshall; two sons, Jimmy and Jeffery Marshall; three sisters, Lena Tiger, Rachel Frank and Sara Watashe.

Survivors include: daughter, Joyce Ham; husband Don of Mounds; five grandchildren; several great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren as well as numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Marshall Family Cemetery.

AMELIA BROWN

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Amelia Brown were held March 22 at the Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church.

Amelia was born March 6, 1945 in rural Wetumka to Benjamin and Maggie (Beaver) Scott.

Amelia was primarily a homemaker after her retirement from Creek Nation where she had been employed as a Secretary in Social Services. She lived most of her life in Oklahoma except for a few years spent living in Southern California.

Survivors include: four children; Darryl Don Tiger; Jesse of Dover, Arkansas, Robert and Tracie Ann Brown, both of Bixby; three brothers, Marcie and James, both of Wetumka, and Ben Scott of Eufaula; two sisters, Anna E. Wind and Marilyn P. Seestebt, both of Henryetta; and four grandchildren.

Pallbearers include: Ronnie Whitetree, Leo Moppin, Cy Johnson, Jr., Osceola Powell, J. R. Fields, and Maxey Fish.

Honorary Pallbearers include: Phillip Mills, Jeremy Fish, Wilson Yardage, and Solomon Johnson.

Interment was held at the Scott Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

Words cannot express our appreciation for the visits, calls, prayers, food , flowers and words of comfort during the hospital stay and the funeral, for our loved one, Willard Yargee.

Thanks to the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church and members. Rev. Frank Moppin and Rev. Fred Lindsey also Williamson Funeral Home, Creek Nation Honor Guards, friends, neighbors, churches, co-workers, and organizations.

We will always remember in our hearts the love, kindness and concerns shown to us. May God continue to bless each of you.

Willard (Beepsy) Yargee family

On behalf of Irene Cleghorn's family, we would like to say "thank you" which is a small token for the support, prayers, flowers and monetary giving from the community, friends and relatives, also, the provision of food and service of the Many Springs Indian Church. We thank the ministers George Doyle and Jimmy Anderson, to S. Aid for her help in making the contacts for the funeral, and to the Creek Nation. We wish that we could personally thank each and everyone of you who came to say goodbye, we will miss Irene. Again, Mvto.

Irene Cleghorn family

Words cannot express the gratitude for all of the love, prayers, flowers, food, cards, visitations and phone calls during the loss of our beloved Kenneth Childers, Sr.

A special thank you to the First Baptist Church, Davis Chapel, Thomas Community Church, Broken Arrow Methodist Church, Haikey Chapel and the Church of God of Prophecy. To the Coweta PTA, Coweta Public Schools, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police for all their assistance. The uplifting from Rev. Randy Wisdom, Rev. Bill Stone, Rev. Brad Drowning Bear, Rev. Donald and Charles McHenry and all the other ministers and speakers. Your deeds of kindness will remain in our hearts forever.

Kenneth Childers, Sr. family

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all those who showed their love and support to our family during this difficult time. We would especially like to thank the Second Chief Alfred Berryhill for conducting such a beautiful service and respecting the Family's wishes. Words cannot be enough to express our gratitude to him. We would like to thank all of Mom's beloved cousins who helped care for her with us all the way to her rest, Della, Liza, and Darrell Proctor. Thank you to Mom's beloved niece, Deanna Lasley who went out of her way to help with preparations, plus many of family and friends too numerous to count. Also we would like to thank all of the members of Weogufkee Church, to Pony Lasley and Geebon Gouge for their songs of love and comfort, and "Chebon" Wilbur Gouge for conducting the traditional speaking for Weogufkee Ceremonial Ground. Last, we would like to thank David Nichols, who as a Council member truly helped his friend and constituent with difficult times and helped to carry Mom to the end. Thank you!

Rose Kelly family

Shop talk with Gerald

Spring has definitely sprung folks and with it comes a new season of baseball.

Baseball, oh yes, the game of home runs, hot dogs, and anabolic steroids.

You know it is just a crying shame that the game that was once called 'America's past time' has been darkened by an illegal drug substance.

It is not an over statement to say that the game will never be looked at in the same manner again. And it is interesting to note that the era in which so many dirty acts have been discovered was at a time when the country really needed a positive pickup instead of a positive drug test. The country has been reeling from the effects of the war in Iraq, as well as the economy and now another disaster to a sport that we look forward to as an escape. Not to mention the sport specifically needed an image make-over. Considering that in only the last decade, major league baseball had undergone a player's strike and was really beginning to clean up the prima-donna image. This on top of the memorable 1998 race to eclipse Roger Maris's 61 home runs. The race between the names of Mark McGwire, Sammy Sosa, and Barry Bonds. Names that have all been questioned, with Sosa and McGwire even appearing before a Senate Committee on their alleged use of steroids in March. What was especially sad was to watch Mark McGwire, the once thought of modern day poster boy of the game squirm and jiggle during his subpoenaed testimony before the committee.

"I'm not here to talk about the past," was McGwire's response to many of the questions asked of his questionable use with the drug known to make a good athlete a much better one. McGwire said he was instructed by his attorneys not to answer the questions and to plead the fifth. But if an athlete is not caught up with anything illegal, what does he have to hide?

Americans are a forgiving people and will give someone a second chance when forgiveness is asked. But when someone tries to hide, then the outcome usually is different. McGwire who, after the questioning, said he would do everything in his power to get the word out that "steroids are bad, don't do them."

Neutral people may look at the whole situation and say "what the big deal, its only a game?" But if that is the case, and the game doesn't really matter and is only to be seen lightly, then why do athletes look to every possible advantage to get ahead. Even if it means the risk of losing one's own life.

Given that, the '98 home run record season has certainly been tarnished, McGwire, Sosa, and any other baseball names should be taken out of the record books for that year.

In the end McGwire said he only wanted to talk about positive things. Then step back up to the plate Big Mack and tell us the whole truth.

Tilley boys make it happen for Wewoka

The 2004-05 Wewoka High School Boys Basketball team. Virgil, number 5 and Mitchell, number 30.

WEWOKA — On the web page of Wewoka High School's athletic page is the phrase 'Respect begins with Good Sportsmanship'. The Tilley boys, Mitchell and Virgil, of Wewoka High School have brought about a lot of respect, especially from opponents while showing good sportsmanship as well.

The Tilley's are Juniors, which means they will be back for another spectacular season for the Tigers.

The Tilley's, along with the likes of Seniors John Thomas, Johnny Patton, Marc Reir and B.J. Walls and a cast of others, helped the Tigers take off strong with a consecutive fourteen game winning streak and a number one ranking in Class 2A. The Tigers were defeating opponents by an average of 15 points. The season's success enabled Wewoka to win the district and regional championships. Which qualified the Tigers to the class 2A state Championship playoffs. From there, Wewoka took a ride through the statewide tournament and got to the championship game. Unfortunately, lady luck didn't shine on the Tigers that final night, as Pawnee defeated Wewoka by a score a of 66 to 65. But the unwanted ending to an awesome season did not diminish what the Tilley's were able to accomplish throughout the year. Earlier in the season, the Tigers went down to the Little Axe Tournament and grabbed first place.

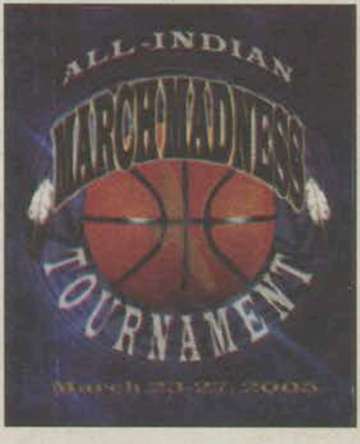
Virgil and Mitchell's play was so dominant, the boys were selected as co-most valuable players of the tournament, which is truly quite a rarity.

Also during the year, the Tigers were invited to play in the prestigious Tournament of Champions at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa. An event which only a select few have the opportunity to do.

"You have to see them to believe me when I say they are the greatest out there on the court!" Great-Aunt Alene Deere, braggs when speaking about her nephews, Mitchell and Virgil. Deere's sediments are the same as all those who live in the city limits of Wewoka and beyond.

So impressive was the contributions of the Tilley's that they led the team statistics in categories such as field goals, and point percentage. Mitchell had 550 points total for the Tigers, while Virgil had 481.

March Madness deemed a success



DEWAR — The tournament lights are turned off once again, but the Second Annual March Madness Basketball Tournament has been declared a royal success according to coordinator Lucas Taylor. Taylor, along with 'For love of the Game' members B.J. Waggoner, David Pascale and Victor Bear created the unique basketball tournament which showcases the best in Native American high school basketball.

Teams from the Alabama-Coushatta tribe in Texas and the Pima in Arizona also entered the tournament and saw Oklahoma basketball first hand.

"We were really impressed with the brand of basketball we seen here," admits San Carlos Head Coach Terry Antonio. "Some of the teams we played against were a little smaller than us and I think they used their size to their advantage," said Antonio.

The Sooner Ladies coached by Lyle Deere defeated the John Crow Foundation to claim the Women's version of the crown.

Over on the men's side, the Native Hoops coached by Farron Culley of Okemah got the win over the Night Hawks to take home the coveted gold ball in the Championship game.

From both brackets, an all star team was created and will be representing Oklahoma in the 20th Annual Native American Youth Weekend April 13 through 16 in Lake Wood, Colorado. 'For Love of the Game' Board members and Council Representatives will also be attending.

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Muscogee Nation News

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Creek wrestler captures prestigious national crown

by Gerald Wofford

RENO, NV — A warrior is a warrior, regardless of his size. As the old cliche goes, its not the size of the dog in the fight, its the size of the fight in the dog!

Jeffries

Davion Ray Jeffries, age nine, is a great example of the famous cliche. Jeffries recently competed in a prestigious national wrestling tournament in Reno, Nevada, where he was crowned national champion. The tournament in Nevada featured over 3,200 wrestlers from all over the United States.

The title Davion know holds is known as the Trinity Award. He had to win two other tough tournaments earlier this year in order to qualify for the national tournament. The tournaments he won were the Cliff Keen and the Tulsa Nationals Tournament.

Davion, who attends Berryhill Elementary School, competes at the 54 pound division and possesses a very impressive record of 72 wins and no losses.

"You have to work on your techniques and your moves," said the enthusiastic Jeffries about winning the title. "It feels great. I want to win a lot more trophies!"

Davion is the son of Jaçkie and Rodney Jeffries.

Iraqi war veteran presents Chief with U.S. Flag

by Gerald Wofford

OKMULGEE — Captain Michael P. Wisener II, a U.S. Marine, recently presented Muscogee (Creek) Principal Chief A.D. Ellis with an American flag that flew over the deserts of Iraq during the Iraqi war.

Pictured above, from left to right, is Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Captain Michael P. Wisener and Jeri Wisener Foley.

Wisener, who is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, presented the flag during a special ceremony in front of the Muscogee (Creek) Veterans Memorial located just west of the Tribal Capitol Complex.

Wisener presented the flag in his customary decorative military attire that represents the U.S. Marine Corps, also known as 'Dress Blues'. A certificate proclaiming authenticity was also presented, it read; "This certifies this flag was flown and rendered proper honors at The Nahr Diyala Bridge Site, Baghdad, Iraq on New Years Day, 1 January, 2005 by the Marines of Bridge Company Alpha, 6th Engineer Support Battalion 4th FSSG, MARFORRES, USMC during Operation Iraqi Freedom II."

"I was proud to receive such an honor and thankful Wisener returned home safely," stated Chief Ellis. Wisener is the brother of Jeri Wisener Foley, Creek Ambassador.

Tribe holds groundbreaking ceremony for Headstart building

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to invest in its youth and its educational foundation. On April 21, the Tribe broke ground on a new Headstart educational facility to be built on the Tribal Capitol Complex grounds.

Rev. J.B. Fish opened the official groundbreaking ceremonies with a Creek prayer. Barbara O'Neal, Acting Manager for Creek Nation Okmulgee Headstart Program, coordinated the ceremonies and remembers when the headstart program was just beginning.

"It first started when I came down here to open the Headstart building in 1987," says O'Neal. "If you drive by our Headstart building now you will see the little house. This little house used to sit right next to the mound building. It (building) held twenty children. Since that time, we have grown from 20 to 60 children!"

Also on hand were members of a National Educational Review Board from Washington, D.C. The Review Board visited the Tribe to critique the program under a three year renewal program.

Jackie Williams, Director of the Review Board, was happy with the progress. "This is an exciting time," said Williams. "I was here three years ago and I see the progress that is taking place already. I am excited to go back and report on what is going on here."

Others in attendance included Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Executive Director Claude Sumner, and National Council Members Thomas Yahola, Robert Jones, and Billy Chalakee.

O'Neal envisions the Headstart program and building expanding to over 80 children one day. "These little kids are our future and we need to start giving them the right education," said O'Neal.

Fan expresses gratitude to MNN Department

Editor:

I am writing to express an almost indescribable gratitude for the work you are doing, although I would suspect that you probably do not view it as work so much as a labor of love. Often I have wanted to learn more about my Indian heritage. This past spring, on a quest to learn more about myself, I spent much time with my father roaming the countryside of Oklahoma, taking photographs and visiting with our wonderful great aunt who has closely guarded the family history. As a part of this journey, I also visited the tribal headquarters to obtain a replacement citizenship card. Taking advantage of the time there, I wandered around and investigated the community resources available. In perhaps one of my best decisions of the day, I stopped by the Communications Department and subscribed to The MNN.

This above-mentioned visit to Oklahoma was much too short and I can honestly say I was not ready to return to my current residence here in the Big Apple. A month or so after returning and kind of settling back into the routine of things here, I reached into my mail box and found, much to my delight, the first edition of the MNN mailed to my home! Can I tell you just how excited I was? God bless you guys. My thirst for knowledge continues. After that visit last spring, I have since discovered the floodgates of information and look forward to exploring it throughout my lifetime.

I am continually impressed with the significance of information that is covered in your publications. Your work is a continual source of inspiration and I am thrilled each time to read stories of progress, cultural pride and preservation, and each new positive event and program created for the people.

As an artist, I must emphasize how especially exciting it is to read and learn about current cultural happenings and the infusion of Native awareness into a broader audience, such as the story of the upcoming exhibit of photographer Tom Fields' work, "Mekausapvlke", the coverage of the exhibit at the Chicago Art Institute, as well as the rock band Indigenous' show at Cains Ballroom. And so much more!

Thank you for keeping me informed and connected.

Sincerely a fan,

Tracy Lynn Jobe, New York, NY

Thanks to festival committee

Editor:

I would like to thank the Creek Festival Committee for inviting us to play again this year. I was very proud to be a part of the Creek Festival last year and I am looking forward to performing and enjoying this event once more.

It is rewarding when you can perform and enjoy the people with whom you work. Special thanks to Ruth Bible, who is not only an integral part in your Festival, but to the Creek Nation itself. In my opinion, the production team had every base covered, doing an outstanding job for every artist concerned.

The musical line up this year's upcoming event features Tulsa Oklahoma's own Leon Russell, who has achieved world wide recognition for his musical achievements. I have been associated with him since we met in high school and I continue to be associated with and work for and with him on music projects. I'm especially excited about his appearance at the Creek Festival this year, as we will both be playing on the Saturday night performance. Once again the musical line up continues to excel.

Special thanks to Chief A.D. Ellis and to Lucas Taylor, the Festival Committee Chairman. They are both to be commended for their support and dedication to special events like this one. It really allows others to see the true nature of the Creek Nation and its people.

Thank you,

Jimmy Markham, Tulsa

Knowledge of flowering seeds

Editor:

Do any of your readers have knowledge of any flowering bushes or other plants which were brought from Georgia or Alabama during the move to Indian Territory, 1827-1838? Some of the historical preservationists of Georgia have asked me about seeds.

Both the McIntosh Reserve on the Chattahochie River and the Indian Springs Hotel at Jackson, Georgia, once owned by my ancestor, Chief William H. McIntosh, Jr., are in renovation programs. They would like to restore the parks to their earliest appearances. They are asking for seeds from the original plants if possible.

Please contact me with your information by mail at 3281 West Lois Lane, Flagstaff, Arizona 8600, or by e-mail at mcintosh@flagstaff.net.

I will be glad to forward all the information on to the historians who have communicated with me.

Thank you and Sincerely,

Billie Jane McIntosh, Flagstaff, Arizona

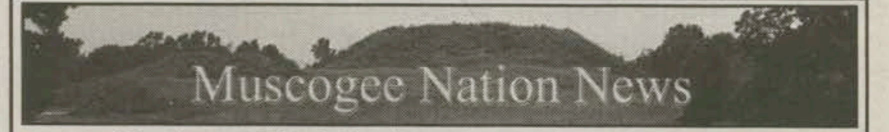
Citizen recognizes special volunteer

Editor:

I would like to take the time to let Creek Nation Headstart of Eufaula and our surrounding communities know how fortunate the Eufaula Headstart was this year to have a very special volunteer, Dennis Clayton, at the center.

Dennis volunteered many days at the headstart. He spent many hours during school, as well as, many hours after school. He volunteered his time in the afternoon to have a baseball team with the headstart

please see **LETTERS**..., page 23



Members of the following two associations:

NAJA
Native American Journalist Association

NAPP
The National Association of Photoshop Professionals

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello friends and fellow creek citizens. I just came back from the Claude Cox Omniplex and the sprung building is being put into place. This is the cone shape building from the Tulsa Casino which was declared surplus. It will now be used for the festival and any such gatherings that room is needed for about two hundred people. A very good addition for this area and this is only the beginning.

Ground breaking was in April for our new headstart building east of the mound. This area will also be the new child care center and bus terminal.

The new buses probably will be here the first of June and operating soon after. I recently sent a bill to the national council involving gaming and now we have five communities that have gaming, Checotah, Eufaula, Okemah, Bristow and Duck Creek.

These communities receive fifty percent of all net profits generated in their facility. In most instances, this is an enormous amount of money, hundreds of thousands of dollars. Now we have twelve communities that are really poor with no source of income, such as Dewar, Wilson, Kellyville, Sapulpa, Dustin, Hanna, Okfuskee and Cromwell, to name a few. Plus, there are six that may be barely getting by. My proposal was to take ten percent of their fifty percent and distribute this to all twenty actual communities, including those with gaming.

This would give to poor communities in depressed and urban areas a check each month of about $1,600 year round. This would activate the communities and also help them provide service to their people, instead of going to council for special appropriation. The creek nation allows these five to have gaming but really this is profits that belong to all Creek people. This bill was postponed in the B& G committee, and naturally the five gaming communities don't want to share their windfall, with the exception of Duck Creek. I believe all creek people could benefit from their ten percent in all communities and still leave forty percent for the gaming communities.

We still stand to have the government assume all profit according to the law of the national Indian gaming Commission, a federal agency. We claim to be a giving and caring people. Lets prove it. MVTO.

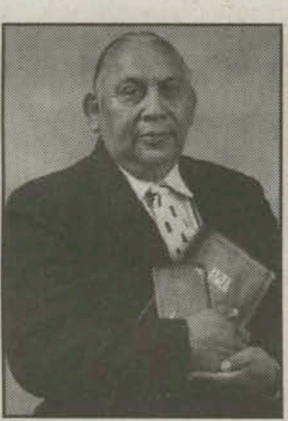
Quote of the month:

"Whoever wants to reach a distant goal must take many small steps."

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

I have been writing to you concerning our past history as a Nation and how it evolved. It is with reluctancy that I not continue . Our history is a great history because we are a great people. We have had differences within our Nation, but we have always came to an understanding and moved on for the betterment of all. I have taken direct text from written text and have related that to you. Some of this written material may be derogatory to some of our Tribal Towns and I am in no way trying to make any Tribal Town look bad or demeaning.



If you would like to pursue the text that I have been using, you may go to a library and ask for the Indian section. However, not all libraries have an Indian section. Okmulgee Library has a very good Indian section where you will find reports and other materials that cannot be released from the Library and you have to read it or copy it on the premises. If you want to find where I have quoted from, look for: "The Forty-Second Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology To The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, 1924-1925, by J. Walter Fewkes, Accompanying reports by: John R. Swanton and William Edward Myer."

I have spoken on numerous occasions with District Judge Patrick Moore on our unwritten history. The only way we can know how our people really lived is hidden in other so called libraries for safe keeping and the general public will never become aware of it. Judge Moore told me of a place in Tulsa where documents are kept where he was able to read some material on our past. He could not take the books and in some cases, he could barely touch the pages and there was even a guard over him when he was reading to make sure he took nothing.

Why do people not want our people to know our past? I think because they knew that we were far greater than them. This brings me to a trip I made to Illinois recently. The Muscogee people were part of a great empire that existed and is known in the history books as "The Mound Builders". There is a place just East of St. Louis named, "Cahokia". This is a city located near the great Mississippi River. The beginnings of this city began some 6,000 years ago and mysteriously ended before contact by non-Indians. These people, along with others, were known as the Mississippian culture and the Muscogee people have a direct link to this culture.

As you know, we as Creeks have a clan system based on a matrilineal society or we follow the clan of our mother. And, our membership to a Tribal Town is through our mother. My mother was of the Apeka Tribal Town and that makes me Apeka Tribal Town member. I feel that the designation Tribal Town is a little misleading because it means more than just a town. I want to illustrate this by telling you about Cahokia. Cahokia was a city or town that had a population of approximately 20,000 residents. The focal point of this city was the Temple Mount. Today, the Cahokian Temple Mount is called "Monks Mound". The Temple Mount is called this because there was a Monk Monastery build on the first level of the Mound years after the city had been abandoned.

The Mount had a wooden fence made of felled trees that enclosed the Mount on all four sides. There was a huge area with the enclosure where meetings were held and games were played. On the very top of the Mount was a lone structure where religious ceremonies took place.

There were three things which required the building of our cities and those were: clay, cane and water. These materials were to construct housing for the inhabitants. The floors were made of clay and had a central hearth where they both heated their interior during winter and for cooking at all other times. Cane was used to erect the walls for the houses and strips of bark peeled from trees helped to hold the walls erect and the walls were then daubed with clay and smoothed over. The roofs of the houses were either grass or thatch. I might add that when the clay finally was cured, it took on the consistency of cement. If you will remember the time line, 6,000 years ago, our people were living in housing made similar to a concrete house and our counterparts in Europe were still living in caves and had no real civilization.

Cahokia had numerous other smaller mounds in which they buried their dead. There was even one mound specifically used to hold the corpses until the burial mounds were complete.

How many of you have heard of a weapon called the "atlatl" (pronounced at-lat-ul)? The atlatl was used to launch shorter versions of a long spear. I'll tell you more about this weapon later in another column. But, the atlatl predates the bow and arrow. The bow and arrow did not arrive on the scene until around the birth of Christ.

Now that you know a little something about a city called Cahokia, you can imagine that if someone were to ask one of the residents what town he was from he would answer Cahokia. The Muscogee (Creek) Confederacy is based upon the uniting of several tribes that lived in a distinct area such as Cahokia. There numbers were as numerous as Cahokia. If we take the population of Cahokia and use it as a base number, we would multiply 44 (which was the number of Tribal Towns that formed the confederacy) times 20,000, we can estimate a population of Muscogee people of 840,000. We are just now passing 58,000 and that isn't even one fourth the original population.

The Mound Builders covered the southeastern region of the present day United States and spanned from the Mississippi delta to the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. There are two more mounds that I will be visiting in the near future and those are the Ocmulgee Mound and the Etowah Mound. The next few articles will be spent on informing you of these mounds and the relationship to our people. Mvto.

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the February 17, extraordinary session.

February 17, Extraordinary session

Absent were: **George Tiger**, Creek District; **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Anthony Notaro**, McIntosh District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpvtce District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa District; and **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

Five (5) tribes video was viewed by the Council regarding Gaming Revenue that was presented to leaders in Washington, D.C.;

Representative **Harjo** arrived during video presentation;

Representative **Barnett** was excused;

representative **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (10-3-0) TR 05-041, authorizing the Principal Chief to substitute page three of the tribal gaming compact between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the State of Oklahoma for Class III games;

voting no were: **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee;

representative **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (13-0-0) TR 05-043, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a treaty of peace and friendship between the Muscogee (Creek) and the Osage tribe;

• approved (14-0-0) TR 05-044, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a treaty of peace and friendship between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Tonkawa Tribe;

• approved (14-0-0) TR 05-045, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a special services attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and **Geoffrey Standing Bear**;

• approved (12-2-0) TR 05-046, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an amendment to development services agreement amending the development services agreement between the nation and Nevada Gold Tulsa, Inc., to move the hotel/conference center from phase I to phase II and increase the size of the casino;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee and **Watson**, Okfuskee;

• approved (14-0-0) NCA 05-042, appropriating funds for a special services attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and **Geoffrey Standing Bear**, PC.;

March 19, Regular session

Absent were: **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

representative **Jones** was in attendance for the approval of minutes then was excused before order of business;

In order of business the Council:

• died on the floor (18-0-0) NCA 05-069, authorizing a special appropriation to the Haikey Chapel (U.M.C.) in **Jesse Kelly's** honor to allow the church at its discretion to do renovations to the fellowship hall and add various handicap accessibility improvements to the outside restroom facilities as determined by the church's governing body;

• died on the floor (18-0-0) TR 05-001, confirming the nomination of **Kathleen Rae Supernaw** to serve as a Supreme Court Justice of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved as amended (18-0-0) TR 05-040, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement with the Muscogee Document Imaging Company a division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority on behalf of higher education a division of Human Development, a division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 05-051, authorizing membership of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the National Tribal Gaming Commissioner and regulators association;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 05-052, approving the business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority with the Muscogee Nation screening & supply services project;

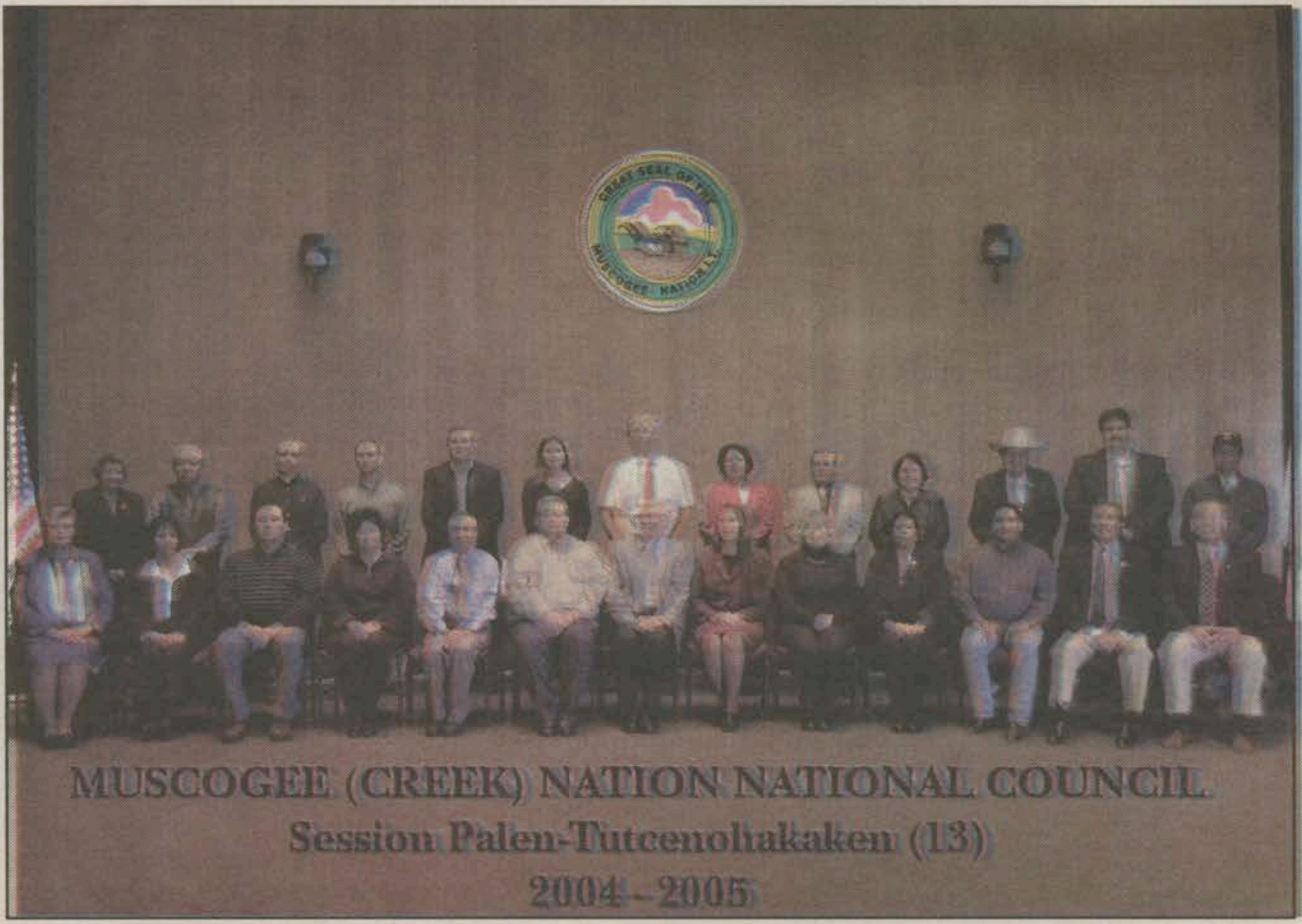
representative **Williams** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (17-0-0) TR 05-056, authorizing the Principal Chief to accept a deed from a tract of land in Hughes County, Oklahoma for use by the Dustin Indian community;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 05-057, authorizing the Principal Chief to accept a deed for a tract of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by the Checotah Indian Community;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 05-058, authorizing the Principal Chief to accept a deed for a tract of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 17


MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen-Tutcenohakaken (13)
2004 - 2005

Duck Creek Announces Green Corn Season

DUCK CREEK — The Duck Creek Indian Community Center, in conjunction with the Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground, would like to announce the upcoming ceremony of the Green Corn Festival.

The Duck Creek Green Corn Ceremony will be held on the last weekend in June beginning on June 24 and going until June 26.

The ground is located off Highway 75 at the 221st Street and Union exit, go east for five miles until the 221st and Sheridan street sign, turn south, then go 2 miles and look for exit on the west side of the road.

The Duck Creek Community Center is located at 10085 Ferguson Road.

For more information call (918) 267-3460.

Community Health Fair

HOLDENVILLE — The Holdenville Indian Community Center will host its Annual Community Health Fair on May 20. The event will be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The health fair is held in conjunction with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representatives Department (CHR).

Medical experts will be on hand for free health screenings. Fun and leisurely activities will also be scheduled.

The Holdenville Community Center is located at 224 East Poplar street.

For more information contact the CHR office at (918) 756-1941.

Community to have city-wide garage sale

COWETA — Koweta Indian Community Center is looking forward to the city-wide garage and flea market sale to be held on May 21.

Various organizations, as well as individuals from the City of Coweta, will be selling various items all throughout the day.

Koweta Indian Community Center is located at 30901 East 141st South.

For more information about the event and upcoming events at the Community Center, call (918) 486-7764 or (918) 486-6183.

Sapulpa Center to hold Indian taco sale

SAPULPA — The Sapulpa Indian Community Center is preparing to host an Indian taco sale.

The sale will be on June 4 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Sapulpa Indian Community is located 1020 North Brown street.

For more information about community events at the Community Center call (918) 227-0519.

Graduate Center providing fellowships

ALBUQUERQUE, NM — The vision of the American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) is nothing short of transformation as we focus our intent, our spirit, and our traditions to build a better tomorrow for Indian people. We are creating successive generations of American Indian citizens prepared to participate in the constructive revitalization of their respective communities, those who share a common, location, common interests, and common needs.

Our ultimate objective is self-sufficiency and self-determination within all Indian communities. People who are self-sufficient and self-determined are free to find meaning in their lives, to build quality lives, and to have a legacy of wisdom for all humanity.

AIGC announces the availability of graduate fellowships for 2004-05 for American Indian and Alaska Native students from federally recognized U.S. tribes.

For more information, call AIGC at (800) 628-1920.

California Creeks Association update

submitted by Eli Grayson, President, California Muscogee (Creek) Association

LOS ANGELES, CA — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association (CMCA) has just finished an outstanding 2005 first quarter.

The January CMCA gathering was all about business, local elections and planning future events. We said good-bye to Wanda Morrison and Billy Lunsford and remembered the good times with Ernestine Marshall. The 2005 officers are Eli Grayson (President), Sandy Denney (Vice-President), Allen Mitchell (Treasurer) and Morvette Mitchell (Secretary). The 2005 CMCA Board members are Ken Taylor, Jane Cazabat and Anne Adams McGowan. We had a great meeting, good food and wonderful fellowship.

The February CMCA gathering was hosted by Joy Harjo and the UCLA English Department. Ted Isham of the Creek Council House in Okmulgee, Oklahoma was the guest speaker. Ted Isham's presentation on the Mvskoke language was captivating. Ted's unforgettable message of the importance of not only learning the Mvskoke language, but understanding the wisdom and the poetry of the spoken word will stay with us for years to come. I look forward to Ted's next visit to California. Mvto Ted Isham.

The March CMCA gathering in Carson, California at Allen Mitchell's Church School building. It was perfect. We had three workshops planned for the day.

George Windes, a sixth generation Red Eagle, gave an engaging genealogy and history class on William Weatherford (Red Eagle). George's presentation was filled with family artifacts and historical documents that kept his class enthralled and amazed.

Brian Worthy hosted a beginners Mvskoke language workshop. Once again his students sat with ears wide open hanging on every word. Brian's class has become popular with the CMCA members. We will continue to have this workshop every other month.

Jane Cazabat hosted the Creek kids workshop. It was absolutely wonderful. The Creek kids who attended this workshop were given an Mvskoke language coloring book and lots of crayons. Jane held their attention with her master skills of Creek story telling. Jane's love for these kids was so irresistible; you can hear them screaming with joy the Mvskoke words like holatte', lane' and cufe. Because of the success of the Creek kids workshop, the CMCA will host this event every month.

Mvto to everyone who helped put this wonderful day together. Mvto.

The CMCA next quarter will kickoff a state wide campaign to register Creek citizens to vote in the National Council election in September.

The Muscogee National Council elections are coming upon us fast. Many National Council members will soon be making their visit to the CMCA. I encourage all Creeks who are living outside of the Muscogee Nation of Oklahoma's jurisdiction to go ahead and register as an absentee voter. Remember, just because you are an enrolled citizen you still must register to vote. 'Registration' and 'Request for a ballot forms' must be in the Election Office by August 25. Participation in our government is every Creek citizen's responsibility. Please get involved and informed. The CMCA will continue to watch and post any new election updates on its web site.

The CMCA is asking for volunteers for our *Summer Gathering of California Creek Indians.* Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and his key staff will attend this gathering held in July.

For more information about the CMCA summer events, call (310) 487-7706.

Tell Us About Your Events

Please keep us informed of your community activities and events so that we may help you get the word out.

Contact us at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 or by phone at (918) 732-7637.

Feel free to fax us as the information at (918) 758-0824.

Fifth Annual Muscogee Nation Challenge Bowl well attended

OKMULGEE — A total of four hundred and sixty participants and volunteers attended the Fifth Annual Muscogee Nation Challenge Bowl games held over a three week period in the Mound Building on the capitol grounds.

Schools from all over Creek Nation boundaries participated and one community, Oklahoma City Muscogee Indian Community sent a team for the first time.

The games are opened to any Creek community, Creek church, ceremonial grounds and all JOM students within the Creek Nation service area.

The response and interest in the annual Challenge Bowl continues to grow every year. Inquiries about the Challenge Bowl have come from as far away as California , Colorado, and Texas.

Winners for the 2005 Elementary games were first place, Hanna Blue Dragons; second place, Glenpool Tvstvnvke Em'meketv; third place, Sapulpa Huhl buh dah; Sportsmanship, Wilson Katcv Micco.

Middle School winners were first place, Hanna Dragons; Second place, Wilson; third place, Glenpool Tvstvnvke Em'meketv and sportsmanship, went to Wilson.

Completing the winner's bracket for the High school Division was first place, Glenpool Tstvnke Em'meketv; second place, Wilson Tafv Luste; third place Morris Lvm'hes; and the Sportsmanship going to Eufaula Ekv Cvto.

The Muscogee Nation's Challenge Bowl is a true testimony to the commitment that the National Council and Principal Chief Ellis has in promoting the revitalization of the Creek cultural, government and language among our youth.

The Muscogee Nation employees and community volunteers are to be commended for their work throughout the year to ensure this special event for the students.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *At press time the photographs of the winners were not available . The winners in each age division will be published in next month's issue of the MNN.*

Tribes hope to save campus

NEWKIRK — Five Oklahoma Indian tribes voted Thursday to seek National Register of Historic Places designation for the old Chilocco Indian School.

Bret Cater, a Preservation Oklahoma board member, said the tribes instructed him and other volunteers to begin the nomination process.

The campus consists mostly of buildings constructed between 1900 and 1920 of limestone quarried on the property. The buildings, last used by a drug and alcohol treatment program, have been vacant since 2001.

"We've had a lot of feedback from the alumni and they don't want to see the school razed," said Michael Harwell, speaker of the Chilocco board. "There's a lot of history there."

Leaders of the Confederated Tribes of Chilocco make up the board. The five tribes are the Otoe-Missouri, Ponca, Pawnee, Kaw and Tonkawa.

Plans being considered include turning the school into a museum and cultural center, Harwell said.

A Minnesota-based company announced last week that it planned to build a casino resort for the Pawnee Nation elsewhere on the sprawling Chilocco grounds.

Preservation Oklahoma included the school on its list of most endangered historic properties the past two years and encouraged the tribes to seek nominations to the national register, executive director Heather Seifert said.

Higher Education accepting applications

OKMULGEE — Now is the time to apply for the Academic year Fall 2005 and Spring 2006. Current high school seniors and prospective students may send written requests for applications with names and addresses.

Requirements: Must be planning to attend a nationally accredited college or university. Must posses a CDIB (undergraduates) and Creek Tribal Membership Cards; apply for FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid); and return completed applications before the closing dates of June 1 and June 15.

Current college students already on the Program are being sent renewal forms to continue for the 05/06 academic year.

Requirements for Post-Graduates: Creek tribal membership card, letter of cceptance into graduate school, proof of Bachelor's degree earned, class schedule, copy of degree plan, and return completed application before the closing date.

Current continuing Post-Graduate applications may send a letter of intent to attend the Academic year 05/06 and include a class schedule.

The higher Education Staff encourages early planning for college, congratulates you on your academic achievements and continuation of your education.

For more information and to verify closing dates, call (918) 732-7691; (918) 732-7692; toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 7691,7692,7693; or e-mail cdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Newspaper seeks submissions for senior high and college graduates

OKMULGEE — The staff of The Muscogee Nation News is seeking submissions from Muscogee senior high and college graduates for its annual graduates' section.

The section will run in the July issue of the MNN. To have a graduation announcement published in this annual section include:

The roll number of the graduate (if the roll number is not known, include the Social Security number and date of birth and the graduate's full name) a focused, color or black and white photograph with good contrast (photos are optional); and

Include information such as: school name; and city; clan; tribal town; parents; grandparents; awards; activities; and plans. Limit for text is 100 words.

The deadline for submissions is May 30. Mail submission to: P.O. BOX 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or e-mail to: mbible@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Electronically mailed submissions must be saved as a word perfect document.

For any questions contact the Communications dept. at (918) 732-7639 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7639

Births

Keaton Lee Barnett

OKLAHOMA CITY — Keaton Lee Barnett was born on April 18, 2005 at the Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City. His parents are Allison and father, Jackson Barnett, Jr.

He weighed seven pounds and 13 ounces.

Barnett is the grandson of Jackson Barnett, Creek Nation Senior Services Manager.

Isaiah McCulley

TULSA — Isaiah McCulley Flores was born on March 16, 2005 to Akeyah McCulley and Everardo Flores. Isaiah weighed 7.5 pounds and was 19.5 inches long.

McCulley

Maternal grandparents are Minnie McCulley and the late Gilbert McCulley, great-grandparents are Sonnie and Nannie Lewis all reside in Dustin, Oklahoma.

Paternal grandparents are Juan and Maria Flores of Tulsa.

Birthday

Chino sisters celebrate birthdays

PAWNEE — Destiny Gale celebrated her eighth birthday on February 26, 2005 and Alexandria Louise celebrated her 12th birthday on January 24, 2005 with family and friends.

D. and A. Chino

Destiny and Alex are the daughter's of Theron and Stacy (Harjo) Chino.

Maternal grandparents are Henry Harjo Jr. of Tulsa and Sandra Harjo of Pawnee. Paternal grandparents are Sandy Chino Sr. of Acomita, New Mexico and the late Diana Chino of Acomita, New Mexico.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Henry Sr. and Judy (Wesley) Harjo of Wetumka and the late Philip and Louise Mathews of Pawnee.

Society

Melton receives certificate

BEGGS — Lanessa Jack Melton has completed her Cultural Resource Technician (CRT) Certification, which puts her on the National registration list and certifies her through Quachita and Ozark, St. Francis, Arkansas, Oklahoma, U.S. National Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture. She completed her course on February 18. There are only 49 who are nationally registered.

Melton

Melton is a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen and is employed with the Nation. She works in the Realty Trust Services Department, which is compacted with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

Lanissa is an outgoing person, very smart and knowledgable and loves to help others.

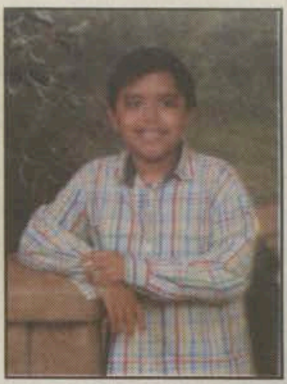
Lanissa is married to Christopher Melton and has two sons, Dylan Dewayne Melton seven years old and Ryan Lane Melton two years old.

Melton graduated from Dustin Public School in 1997. After graduation she attended Bacone College of Muskogee. She is still continuing her education at Oklahoma State University of Okmulgee.

She is the daughter of Lee Ann Jack of Dustin. Her maternal grandparents are Lourna Pigeon Jack and the late Mitchell Jack of Dustin.

Keawphalouk gets superior rating for solo

SEMINOLE — Tia Keawphalouk, who is a member of the Keynotes club, received a Superior rating in the piano solo during the National Federation Junior Festival held on the campus of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee on March 26.


Keawphalouk

Tai's parents are Yotin and Clara Keawphalouk, Seminole and the grandson of the late George and Hattie Alexander, Lamar.

Caywood receives nominations

MANNFORD — Andrea Caywood attends Mannford High School. Caywood is in the tenth grade and has received multiple nominations to appear in Who's Who Among American High School Students and qualify for their exclusive "Honor Society".

Caywood

Caywood's biography will be in their 39th edition. She is ranked 35th of 154 students in the tenth grade. She is a member of the Indian Club, SADD, Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Has A GPA of 3.5 and is on the Principals Honor Roll. Caywood will also letter in each sport, Cross Country V, Basketball JV, V, Soccer V, and Track V.

Andrea Caywood is the daughter of Andrew and Melissa Caywood of Mannford. She has two brothers Nicholas and Jonathan.

Maternal grandparents are Mose Lindsey of Dewar and Neomi Lindsey of Depew.

Paternal grandparents are Samuel and Susan.

Announcements

Jackson Graduates in May

BROKEN ARROW — Jami Renae Jackson Graduates from Broken Arrow High School on May 12.

Jackson

Jackson is a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and manager of the Broken Arrow Girls Basketball team. She is interested in meteorology, computers, health care and currently works at the Hungry Howie's Pizza and Hallmark Cards.

Jackson plans on attending Tulsa Community College and then transferring to Oklahoma University

Bigpond and Standley announce engagement

HECTORVILLE — Tonya Bigpond and Robert Standley would like to announce their engagement. Tonya is the daughter of Negiel and Jan Bigpond of Hectorville. Robert is the son of Phil and Bess Standley of Henryetta.

Bigpond and Standley

They will be married on July 16, 2005 at Morning Star Church of All Nations in Hectorville.

Haynes celebrate 40th Wedding Anniversary

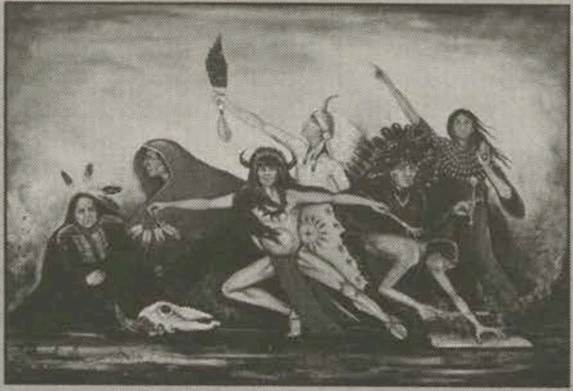
OKMULGEE — Felix and Gloria Haynes will be celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary on May 18.

They couple met in high school and were married three days out of school. They have three children and seven grandchildren: Felicia Chuckluck, her husband Wayne, Jayme and Wyatt of Commerce; Leslie Stone and husband Tim, Timothy and Cheyanne of Hectorville; and Jay and Stephanie Haynes, Cain and Domiana of Sequoyah.

Felix is a retired Baker and Gloria has worked for the Office of Child Care for ten years and is now the Licensing and Monitoring Supervisor.

Indian Tribes of Oklahoma: An Interactive Journey

OKLAHOMA CITY — Red Earth, Inc. has strived over the years to provide teachers and administrators with an educational tool, which will enhance students' knowledge of Oklahoma's varied American Indian heritage.



The Red Earth staff has worked with several organizations to develop the "Indian Tribes of Oklahoma: An Interactive Journey," a CD-ROM designed for fourth through ninth graders. Educators will find this interactive CD invaluable in their cultural diversity life-style, historic and social studies curriculums.

The primary objective of this project is to help students better understand the complexities of the American Indian culture in a unique and different format. The mission is to promote, preserve and promulgate the American Indian history and cultures.

This tool is part of Red Earth's educational outreach efforts. It includes American Indian music, narration, photos, text and video clips. It has seven learning areas including artisans, clothing, communication, dwellings, food, geography and tribes. The geography section includes maps showing where the various tribes came from and where they settled in Oklahoma.

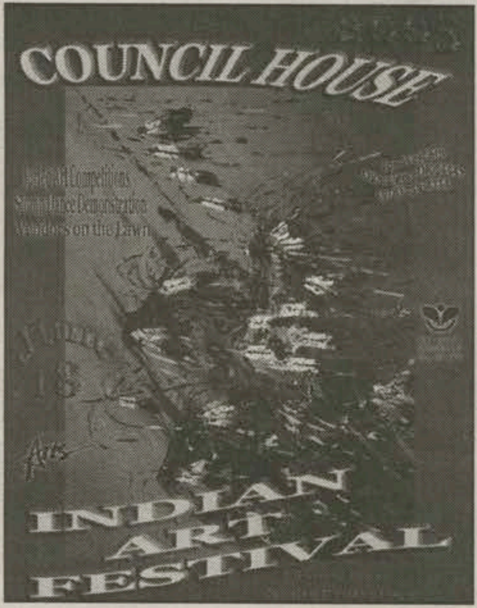
The tribes section has informational passages, internet keywords and mailing addresses for each of the 39 federally recognized American Indian tribes.

The CD-ROM is not just for teachers and administrators, anyone wanting one may order. For ordering information, contact Red Earth, Inc. at (405) 427-5228 or e-mail at info@redearth.org.

2005 Indian Art Festival

OKMULGEE — Come celebrate the rich Muscogee (Creek) culture with both residents and visitors alike, during the Creek Council House Museum's 2005 Indian Art Festival.

The 2005 Indian Art Festival will be held on Saturday, June 18 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Creek Council House Museum in historic downtown Okmulgee. The exciting festival and celebration of Native American culture will include: hands-on Native American arts & craft sessions for kids beginning at 10:00 a.m.; storytelling for kids (and kids at heart!) by Muscogee storyteller Will Hill and his partner Jehnean Washington; Pow-Wow demonstration; An 1830's Creek-Seminole Encampment (all day); A Juried Art Competition in Painting/Graphics, Pottery and Cultural Arts with a $1,000 top prize in each category and much more! At the end of the day will be a traditional Stomp Dance.



As if the exciting storytelling, dancing, and kids activities weren't enough… there will be an incredible variety of Native American hand-made jewelry, artwork, pottery and more available for sale on the Creek Council House Museum lawn throughout the festival.

Artisans, from all over Oklahoma and surrounding states, will be showcasing their beautiful jewelry and art, and inviting you to browse and shop for that special and unique hand-made gift for a family member, friend, or yourself.

Speaking of artisans, another thrilling aspect of this year's festival is the featured artist, Clancy Gray. Clancy, an Osage Tribal member, lives in Tulsa and has coached and taught art in the Tulsa Public Schools for many years. His talent crosses all mediums. He is an accomplished painter, sculptor, potter and jeweler. His painting, *Night Protectors*, is a spirited portrayal of a warrior, filled with vibrant colors and intensity in its execution.

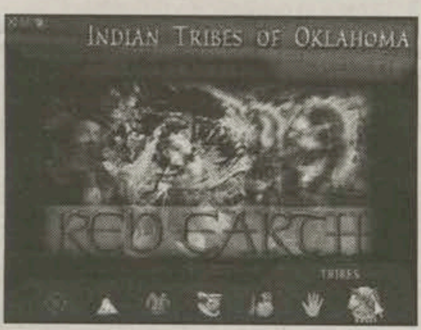
It is the official art of the 2005 Council House Indian Art Festival. Stop by and visit with Clancy in his booth. He will have jewelry and other artwork for sale during the festival. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and view the artwork of this nationally acclaimed artist, and see his talent for yourself.

For more information, contact the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324.

This event is sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Red Earth Festival

OKLAHOMA CITY — The 19th annual Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival will be held June 3 through 5 at the Oklahoma State Fair Park.



On June 3 & 4, the theme is 'Tribal Flag & Royalty Day'. The day's events include: Art Market open, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.; grand entry for all dancers with tribal flags, 12 p.m.; dance competition, 1 – 5 p.m.; gourd dance, 5 – 7 p.m. and grand entry for all dancers with royalty, 7 p.m. Sunday's schedule consists of: Art Market, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; grand entry with elder recognition, 12 p.m.; adult dance competition, 1 – 5 p.m. and youth art awards ceremony, 2 p.m.

The Red Earth Festival admission is: general admission, $10; senior citizens and children, $7.50; children under 6, free; three-day pass, $20 and groups of 20+, $7.50. For group sales call Red Earth at (405) 427-5228. Tickets will be sold at the gate or call or visit the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds box office at (405) 948-6807.

The Oklahoma State Fair Park is located just northeast of the I-40 and I-44 intersection, at the 10th St. East exit off of I-44.

The Red Earth Festival was conceived in 1986 by local businessmen, civic leaders and government officials in cooperation with leaders of Oklahoma Indian tribes.

Stompdance performed at Gathering

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Citizens of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Stompdancers performed an exhibition stompdance at the Gathering of Nations on April 30.

Stompdancers included: Sam Proctor; Connie Noon; Pat and Simeon Johnson; Ramona Harjo; Ace Buckner; Alexis Crosley; Mallory and Sundala Bible; Irene Proctor-Thompson; Lena and Lucy Tiger; Richard 'Snow' Harley; Kathy Bear; Jr. Miss Muscogee Nation Alyssa Bear and Miss Muscogee Nation Victoria Mills.

Bruner Reunion

LAMAR— On Friday, July 1, the Bruner family will have a weiner roast, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Middle Creek No.1 Baptist Church in Lamar. Please bring family photos. They will also be honoring veterans.

On Saturday, July 2, the Bruner Family will have it's annual reunion starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Church. Please bring a covered dish and garage sale items. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Joyce Bear, or Naomi Bear at (405) 645-2241 or Abbie Larney at (405) 379-8187.

Louisa Canard / Alex Scott Family Reunion

OKMULGEE—The Louisa Canard / Alex Scott family reunion will be held at Dripping Springs Park in Okmulgee on May 21 starting at 10:00 a.m. Descendants of Louisa Canard or Alex Scott are invited to attend. Anyone attending is asked to bring a potluck dish.

For more information, contact Geneva Haynes at (918) 759-8973.

Memorial ceremony to honor veterans

OKMULGEE — A remembrance ceremony will be held on Memorial Day, May 30, at 10:00 a.m. at the Main Complex Memorial Park to honor all Veterans that have fallen in service. The Muscogee Honor Guard will render honors.

For more information, contact Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739.

Creek Artists Wanted

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is seeking Creek artists of all mediums to submit resumes and curriculum vitae to establish a comprehensive vendor list for present and future tribal projects.

The various types of art will be used to facilitate the cultural expansion and renewal of the tribal complex and other Muscogee (Creek) Nation facilities. In addition to the submission of resumes/vitae, each artist must submit a copy of his / her citizenship card.

Send information to: Muscogee Nation, P.O. Box 652, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447. For more information please contact Mvskoke@aol.com or call at (918) 758-1400 or fax to (918) 758-1413.

Haskell Indian University 1970-1979 Reunion

LAWRENCE, KS. —The 1970 - 1979 Reunion Committee will host a big celebration during Haskell Indian Nation University's Homecoming, October 21 - 23.

The committee is looking for former Haskell Indian Junior College graduates, students, varsity athletes from 1970's including coaches and managers, cheerleaders, royalties, etc. Faculty, staff, alumni, and friends are welcome to attend.

Those interested may register now on-line at www.haskell.edu/haskell/alumni or you may contact Gloria Graves, Committee President. Additional information will be sent to those who register. Updated information will be posted on the website at www.haskell.edu/haskell/alumni.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services Available.

OKMULGEE — The Realty Department would like to advertise the upcoming meeting with Oklahoma Indian Legal Services. Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will be at the complex Thursday, May 26 starting at 10:00 a.m. Anyone wanting to meet with a representative can call (918) 732-7713 and schedule an appointment.

Haskell Alumni Association accepting members

LAWRENCE, KS. — The Haskell Alumni Association is now accepting members. The association needs to know your name, address, telephone number, the dates you were enrolled, and the name you used while there. A membership fee of $10.00 covers from Nov 1 2004 to Oct. 31 2005.

Please send the information and payment to Lou Lasley at: 9700 Sheperd's Drive, Kansas City, MO. 64131.

Life Insurance Information

PHONE — Life insurance, like everything else in life, comes in many different packages, and sometimes those packages can cost more than they should. However, there is an organization that monitors the price of many different life insurance companies and policies and can help you get the best policy for your money.

For a free information packet please call 1(800) 380-0578 to speak to an automated recording. There is no charge for this service and no one on the other end of the phone to hassle you.

Lighthorse Explorer Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Tribal Police department is proud to be the first Tribal Police Exploring Post in the state of Oklahoma, as well as just one of the few in the United States.

Law Enforcement Exploring is a program created by the Boy Scouts of America, for young people, boys and girls, with an interest in law enforcement as a possible career. The program is designed to give those that join a hands on experience in law enforcement.

The program is also a way to get young people involved in their communities through the community service that the post takes part in; this also shows the communities that the youth do care about their community.

Although character development is primarily a parent's responsibility, it is also contributed to by the law enforcement. The explorer who wears the uniform or insignia that identifies him/her as being associated with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Department is held to a far more rigid standard of conduct than his/her peers. Explorers are judged by the law enforcement personnel and quickly learn that only the highest standard of conduct is acceptable.

Through experience, Explorers learn and practice leadership skills similar to law enforcement personnel. Those Explorers in leadership positions within the explorer post learn the realities of being responsible for all subordinates' achievements and short falls.

The Law Enforcement Explorer Program has three main themes that must be provided by the Post. These are: to further the Explorer's Education; to encourage the Explorer's participation in a rewarding and productive service activity; and to enhance the Explorer's preparation for future roles as citizens, community members, leaders, and future Law Enforcement Careers.

For more information please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Tribal Police Department at: P.O. Box 580, 1008 E. Eufaula, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447; (918) 732-7800; or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7800.

Indian Health Care fights for youth

TULSA — In an effort to combat health problems in the Native American population, Indian Health Care Resource Center is offering three summer camps for Native American children.

The first of these is Wellness Adventures Camp 2005 that focuses on the health and wellness of Native American children.

Children will participate in a variety of adventure-based health and fitness activities including the ROPES challenge course. Activities will focus on diabetes awareness and prevention, nutrition and fitness, problem solving, and asset building. Kids will also develop a personal responsibility for positive behavior changes regarding health and wellness.

The camp dates are June 13 - 18 for children having completed grades 1 - 4, June 20 - 24 for children having completed grades 3 - 6, July 11 - 15 for children having completed grades 3 - 6, and July 18 - 22 for children having completed grades 1 - 4. The camp will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A leadership camp for return campers will be on July 18 - 22 and is for children who have completed grades 7 - 8 and have attended camp previously.

The Wellness Adventures Choices camp is for children who want to lose weight. Children and parents will learn a healthy life-style approach for weight management. Topics include a traffic light eating plan, plate method eating plan, fun physical activity, dealing with peer pressure, choosing healthy influences, and having a healthy home environment.

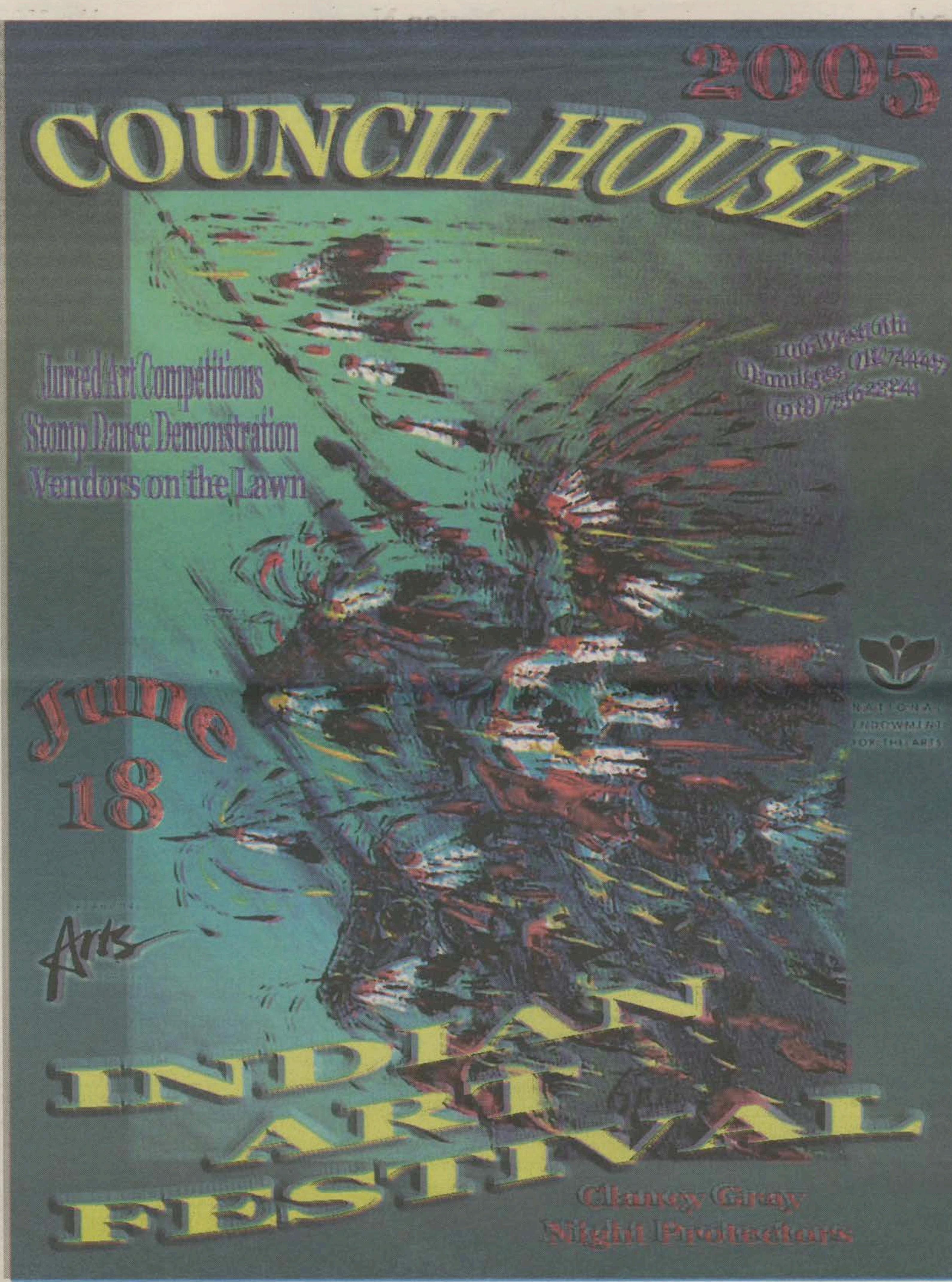
The camp meets June 27 - July 1 for grades 3 - 5 and July 25 - 29 for grades 6 -8 and meets from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Parents support and participation is essential for the success of this program and parents are encouraged to attend the Parent / Kid camp from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Monday and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday.

The Reach for Fitness Camp 2005 encourages children to learn about making healthy choices in physical activity and nutrition. The camp is for children who have completed K - 2 grades and runs from July 25 - 29 either from 9 a.m. - 12 noon or from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

For more information, contact the Indian Health Care Resource Center at (918) 588-1800 or (918) 382-1220.

Tribe to extend operation hours to better serve citizens

OKMULGEE — In an effort to better serve the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, certain tribal offices will be have business hours from 7 a.m. through 6 p.m. The extended hours of operation is scheduled to begin on June 6. As stated earlier, only certain offices will have the extended hours. For more information contact each office individually.



2005

COUNCIL HOUSE

Jurried Art Competitions
Stomp Dance Demonstration
Vendors on the Lawn

106 West 6th
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-2324

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

June
18

Arts

INDIAN ART FESTIVAL

Clancy Gray
Night Protectors

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Classifieds

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Classifieds is a free service provided for Creek Citizens. To place a classified advertisement in the Muscogee Nation News please contact the Communications Department Classified Section at 918-732-7643 or email the advertisement content to Cbrown@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Advertisement space is limited and ads will be placed as they are received according to space.

Appliances

GE 8 cycle washer, almond color, good condition works fine $100. Call 918-756-4349.

Automobiles

Frieghtliner 18 wheel Dump Truck $16,000.00 call (918)906-8509.

1991 Dodge Diesel 4x4 pickup, good work truck$4000.00 call (918)906-8509

1997 Silver Buick LeSabre $3500. Very Clean, runs good. Call 918-906-8509.

1995 White Ford E250 Cargo Van $4500. Call 906-8509.

1996 White Chevy Astro Van, runs and body is in fair shape $400.00 Call 918-798-1643.

2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer LS Gold with black 2 wheel drive, 6 cylinder, Automatic, 4 doors, Onstar Center Air bags, 6000 miles, power windows and doors, will make April & May payment, equipped with luggage rack. Call William at 733-1270.

95 Chrysler New Yorker 4 door, runs good needs minimal body repair. Call 918-756-3396.

Blue 94 Geo Tracker, removable hard top, runs good. Call 918-756-3396.

1983 Three quarter ton Chevy 454, runs on gas or propane. $2695. Call 918-756-4349 after 5pm.

94 El Camino 305, extremely great condition low miles. $4395. Call 918-756-4349.

Clothing

Three pair of wester jeans $20.00 each, sizes 11/12; one 3 piece western dress $10.00, size medium; one western blouse $10.00 size medium. Call (918) 686-6063.

boys clothes, large sizes good condition. Leather Jackets $35 each. Call 918-304-9729.

Prom Dresses – all dresses are size 12. $50. Contact at 918-304-9729.

Black long length leather women's coat, size 1x. $50. Call 918-304-9729.

Prom Dress Turquoise – size 7. Contact Sherri Riley 918-732-7943 (Price Negotiable).

Cosmetic and Health Care

Check out the new summer items and cosmetic line from Avon. Contact Angela Fields Avon Independent Sales Representative at 918-284-3140.

Mary Kay cosmetic products available contact Marsha Lowe at 918-652-1681.

Melaluca Products All Natural based products that promote wellness and vitality for more information contact Kimberly Reinking at 918-652-3169.

Avon independent sales E-representative Glory Jones at http://www.youravon.com/gloryjones/

Farm & Garden

Looking for new or good condition used bee boxes. Contact 918-473-7758.

2 New (never used) saddle racks in the shape of cowboys. $150 each. Call 918-733-2467.

42 inch Craftsmen mower deck (like new) with new, never used blades. $250 or OBO. Call 319-0654.

Furniture

Hutch for sale $575.00 or best offer call (918) 752-4062

Black leather couch good condition $50. Call 918-304-9729.

Solid wood bunk beds with detachable ladder. Frame is in really great shape, like new only used for 1 year. $100. Call 918-756-5025.

BenchCraft Sofa and Loveseat for sale for $650. Color: Tan, Material: Micro-Suede, 1.5 years old, only used for 9 months. Easy clean-up. Call 918-756-5091.

Garage Sales & Fundraisers

Two Family Garage Sale. 304 South 17th Street in Okemah. Kids, teen clothes and more. June 4, 2005.

Homes for Rent

Available late May, small cottage home with picket fence, historical Okmulgee neighborhood, see 701 North Morton Avenue. 2 bed room. (918) 756-1788.

Land for Lease

WA NTED 80 or more acres of land to lease for hunting purposes or would consider purchasing. Contact Scott at 918-650-3907 or 918-652-3147.

Pets & Livestock

Registered Maltese puppies born April 12, 2005, will be ready in 3 weeks. Taking deposits now. (918) 906-8509.

Yorkies ready in June call now to reserve a pup. Call (918) 906-8509

Chocolate Labrador female 2 1/2 years old very affectionate and obedient pet. AKC Registered and proven breeder. Call 918-827-5272.

Labradoodle pups 1 chocolate and 1 black female $250.00 each. 8 weeks old ACHC registered. (918) 756-5427.

Black ACHC Registered Labradoodle pups available in three weeks. Hypo-allergenic, minimal to no shedding, very intelligent breed. $400 each. Call 918-798-1643.

Canaries various colors $30 and up. Call 918-319-0654.

Misc.

Wallpapering by Kathy. 27 years experience and free estimates. For more information call (918) 652-9529 or (918) 652-5999.

Spring cleaning, brush, mowing, hauling misc. yard work in Okmulgee and surrounding area. Contact J. Polk and leave message at 918-756-3571.

1996 Sea-doo 115 Hp, looks and runs like new. New trim motor, has cover and trailer. $2900. Call 918-759-0043.

1991 Hi-Lo 22' Camper Travel Trailer. $4000. Call 918-759-0043.

Will make ribbon skirts and dresses. Contact Brenda LaSarge at (918) 759-2008. 503 West Yuchi, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Eureka Boss vacuum cleaner. $20. Call 918-650-0628.

36 foot trailer, half car hauler/half enclosed. $2800. Call 918-756-2032.

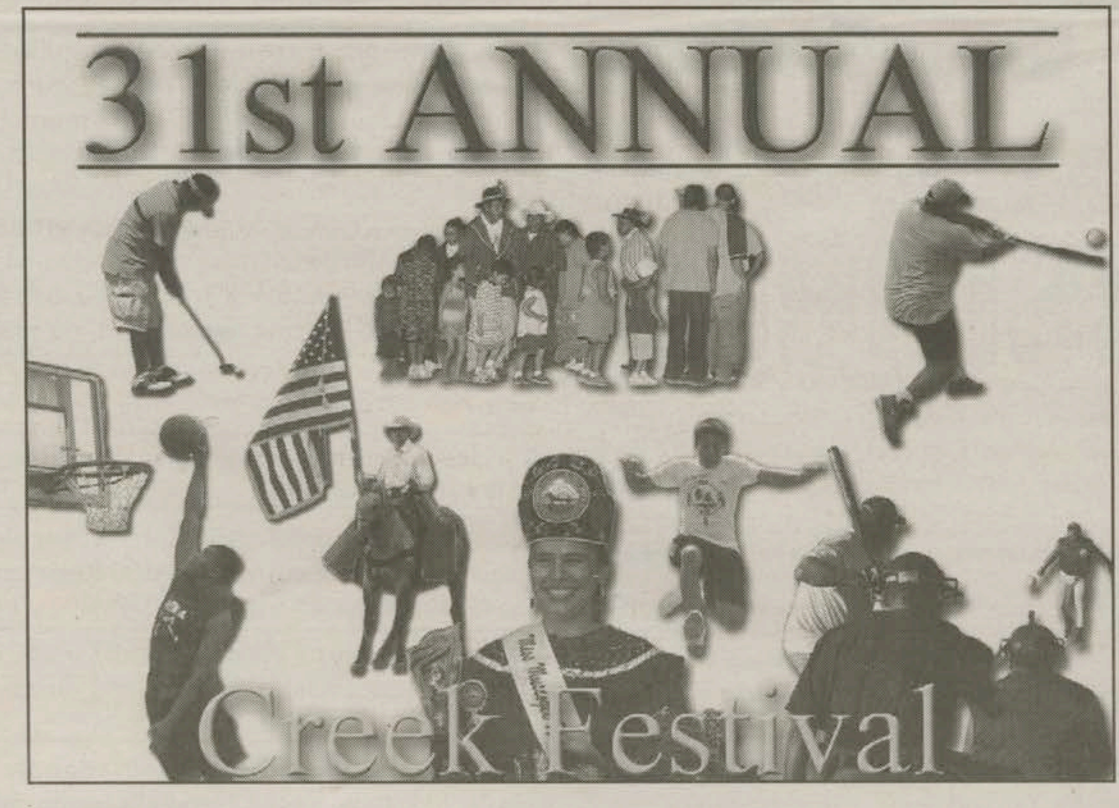
25 to 30 railroad ties $4 each. Call 918-652-7693.

Always Faithful Constructin, State insured, commercial, residential, framing, remodeling, decks, free estimates. Contact Joe Martel, Jr. (918) 304-9757 or Ben Gibson, Jr. (918) 902-2428.

31st Annual Creek Festival Ads

Full page ad: 8.5 x 11 / $200.00
Half Page 4.25 x 5.50 / $115.00
Quarter Page ad: 2.375 x 2.75 / $65.00
Business Card ad- Sold out

MCN Communications Department (918) 732-7643



FRI. & SAT.

Highlights June 3

Pageant

The Miss and Junior Miss Mvskoke Creek Nation Scholarship Pageant will be held June 3 at 7 p.m. and June 4 at 10 a.m. at the Covelle Hall OSU-Okmulgee Campus.

Contestants for the Miss Mvskoke, Junior Miss & Little Miss pageant will be judged in the areas of: poise; personality; dress; talent; speech; and impromptu questions.

Detail information and requirements are printed on the application which is available from KoKo Lowe (918) 732-7665

The deadline date for applications is May 20 by 5 p.m. For more information, contact Virginia Thomas at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM at 1 (800) 482-1979 or Jeri Brandon at (918) 732-7843.

FRI. - SUN.

Highlights June 10 -12

Co-ed Slow Pitch

Friday June 10 the Men's, Women's and Co-Ed slow pitch Softball tournament will begin at 8 a.m. at the Claude Cox Omniplex. Saturday and Sunday the tournament will continue and begin at 8:00 a.m.

All participants must be from a federally recognized tribe. Balls will be provided. Prizes will be awarded for the top four teams, MVP awards, all tournament team, golden glove award and home run derby.

For further information please contact Victor Bear at 261-2315.

Junior Rodeo

The Junior rodeo will held at the Omniplex rodeo arena beginning at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Prizes $5,000.00 added money. For more information, contact Dwayne Motte (918) 756-8069 or Marlissa Camerer (918) 688-8228.

THURSDAY

Highlights June 16

Stompdance Exhibition

The Tallahassee Wykokaye Ceremonial Ground will be hosting a Stomp Dance exhibition near the concert stage. Fellowship will begin at 7 p.m. The dancing to will begin at 8:30 p.m.. Everyone is invited.

For more information, contact David Proctor at (918) 756-8504.

FRIDAY

Highlights June 17

Junior Olympics

The Junior Olympics will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, June 17 at Harmon Stadium.

The Olympics offer Indian youth ages six to 15 the opportunity to compete in track events. The events for ages 6 - 7 are a 30 meter dash, 50 meter dash, 400 meter relay, and softball throw. For ages 8 - 9 there is a 50 meter dash, 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter relay, and a softball throw. For ages 10 - 11 there is a 50 meter dash, 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter relay, and a hoop shoot. For ages 12 - 13 there is a 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash, 400 meter relay, hoop shoot, and a long jump. For ages 14 - 15 there is a 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash, 400 meter relay, 1 mile run, hoop shoot, and long jump.

The deadline for registration is May 27. Volunteers are needed for this event. For more information, contact Dawn Edwards at (918) 732-7869.

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

There will be a 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament for 18 years old and under at the Omniplex starting Friday, June 17 at 5 p.m. Participants must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe and provide a CDIB or enrollment card. Deadline to sign up will be June 6. For more information or an entry form, contact Tamara Berryhill (800) 219-9458 ext. 404 or Celesta Johnson at (800) 219-9458 ext 342.

Men and Women's Fast Pitch Tournament

The Men's and Women's Fast Pitch Tournament will begin Friday, June 17 at 6 p.m. and run through Sunday, June 19 at the Claude Cox Omniplex. Saturday and Sunday the tournament will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Deadline for entry fee is June 3. To obtain a entry fee form or for more information, contact Dean Williams at (918) 830-2902.

Gospel Singing

A Gospel singing is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. in the OSU Extension Building at the Okmulgee County Fair Grounds.

This year the coordinator has chosen to feature Native American Gospel singers to perform for your enjoyment.

Dinner will be provided on a first come first serve basis. The dinner will consist of a two piece chicken dinner provided by Charlie's Chicken. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a time of fellowship. Door prizes will be given away.

For more information, contact Thompson "Geebon" Gouge at (918) 732-7637.

32nd Annual All-Indian Rodeo

There will be an All Indian Rodeo beginning on June 17, at 7 p.m. and on June 18 beginning at 10 a.m. Events include barrels, bull riding, Steer Wrestling, Calf Roping, Bare Back, Saddle Bronc, team roping, Jr steer riding and ladies breakaway. Prizes for the junior events is $200 added, senior events $1,000 added , and for the team roping $2,000 added. Entry fees will be accepted beginning at 5:30 p.m. June 17.

For more information, contact Bob Arrington at (918) 732-7650 or visit www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Entertainment

The concerts are scheduled to begin on Friday, June 17 at 6:00 p.m. with the following performers: Fiddlin' Buddy Streight, Roger Tillison Band, Brandon

Jenkins, Indigenous and Junior Brown.

Golf Tournament

The 31st Annual Festival Golf Tournament will kick off June 17 at Fountain Head Golf Course beginning at 1 p.m. with a scramble. The tournament will continue Saturday and Sunday beginning at 8 a.m.

For more information, contact Perry Anderson at (918) 756-8700, Bret Hayes at (918) 681-0918 or Bert Robison at (918) 689-2547.

Senior Activities

Senior activities will run from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m. at the Elderly Housing Center with bingo, arts and craft booths, quilt show, horseshoes and many more exciting things to do. Also, the Euchee Boarding School will be having its annual reunion.

For more information contact Donna Martin (918) 732-7962.

Festival Arts & Crafts

The Arts & Crafts booths will be at the Omniplex June 17th - 19th beginning each day at 9:00 a.m. For more information contact Melinda Taylor (918) 732-7727.

Creek Hymn Singing

Festival Creek Hymn Singing will take place on Friday & Saturday, Dinner will be served from 4-6 at the community Center and the Singing will begin 7:00 p.m. at Covell Hall. Members of Native Praise will be in attendance as well as the honor guard will post colors. For more information contact Mike Coon (918) 759-8554.

SATURDAY

Highlights June 18

Entertainment

Saturday's entertainment will begin at 12:30 p.m. with the following performers: Chance Rush/Elaine Miles, HomeBrewed, Chebon Tiger, Cecil Gray & Red Dawn, Jimmy Markham, Chris Zalez, Wayne Hancock, Leon Russell, and Indigenous.

Principal Chief Ellis will give his address and conduct the Living Legends ceremony at 5:30 p.m. For more information, contact Ruth Bible at (918) 732–7642 or Barney Ingram (918) 756-3571.

Indian Arts Festival

A juried traditional art competition and sale will be held on Saturday at the Creek Council House Museum. Traditional arts will be provided for children throughout the day. A Pow Wow and Stomp dance demonstration will be scheduled through the day in conjunction with the festival parade.

For further information, contact Ted Isham at the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756–2324.

5k Run/Walk

The 5k run/walk will begin at 8:00 a.m. starting at the Main Complex. Entry fee is $15 before June 18th and $20 on race day with t-shirt, $10 fee without t-shirt.

For more information contact Lila Garrett at (918) 732-7869.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY - JUNE 3

- Miss Mvskoke & Jr. & Miss Mvskoke Pageants • Covelle Hall OSU Okmulgee Extension Campus • Virginia Thomas • 7 pm

SATURDAY - JUNE 4

- Senior Ms Mvskoke & Little Miss Pageants • Covelle Hall OSU Okmulgee Extension Campus • Virginia Thomas • 10:00 am

FRIDAY - JUNE 10

- Men, Women & CO-ED Slow-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Victor Bear • 6:00 pm
- Junior Rodeo • Omniplex • Dwayne Motte 7:00 pm

SATURDAY - JUNE 11

- Men, Women & CO-ED Slow-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Victor Bear • 8:00 am
- Junior Rodeo • Omniplex • Dwayne Motte 7:00 pm

SUNDAY - JUNE 12

- Men, Women & CO-ED Slow-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Victor Bear • 8:00 am

THURSDAY - JUNE 16

Stompdance • Omniplex • David Proctor • 7:30 pm

FRIDAY - JUNE 17

- Youth Olympics • Harmon Stadium • Dawn Edwards • 9:00 am
- Golf Tournament • Fountain Head Golf Course • Perry Anderson, Bert Robison, and Bret Hayes • 1:00 pm
- Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Dean Williams • 6:00 pm
- Concerts • Omniplex • Ruth Bible • 6:00 pm
- All Indian Rodeo • Omniplex • Bob Arrington • 7:00 pm
- Elderly Activities • New Senior Center • Donna Martin • 9:30 am
- 3 on 3 Basketball 18 yrs and under • Omniplex • Tarmara Berryhill, Celesta Johnson • 5:00 pm
- Gospel Singing • OSU Extension Building • Thompson Gouge • 6:30 pm
- Arts & Crafts • Omniplex • Melinda Taylor • 9:00 am
- Creek Hymn Singing • Okmulgee Indian Community Center • Mike Coon • 4:00 pm

SATURDAY - JUNE 18

- Chief's Address & Living Legends Ceremony • Omniplex Stage • 5:30 pm
- Art Festival • Creek Council House • Ted Isham • 10 am
- Creek Hymn Singing • Okmulgee Indian Community Center • Mike Coon • 4:00 pm
- All Indian Rodeo Slack Saturday • Omniplex • Bob Arrington • 7:00 pm
- 3 on 3 Basketball • Omniplex • Micco Freeman • 8:00 am
- Golf Tournament • Fountain Head Golf Course • Perry Anderson, Bert Robinson, and Bret Hayes • 1:00 pm
- Arts & Crafts • Omniplex • Melinda Taylor • 9:00 am
- Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Dean Williams • 8:30 am
- 5K Run/Walk • Mound Building • Lila Garrett • 8:00 am
- Festival Parade •Downtown, Okmulgee • Irene Culley • 12:30 pm
- Adult/Youth Mushball Tournament • Omniplex • Victor Bear • 9:00 am
- Volleyball Tournament • Omniplex • Christine Denny • 9:00 am
- Concerts • Omniplex • Ruth Bible • 12:30 pm
- Horse Shoes • Omniplex • Larry Soweka • 8:00 am

SUNDAY - JUNE 19

- Arts & Crafts • Omniplex • Melinda Taylor • 9:00 am
- Golf Tournament • Fountain Head Golf Course • Perry Anderson, Bert Robinson, and Bret Hayes • 1:00 pm
- Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Dean Williams • 8:30 am

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FESTIVAL VISIT THE FESTIVAL WEBSITE AT: WWW.MUSCOGEENATION-NSN.GOV

Festival Parade

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Parade will begin on Saturday in downtown Okmulgee at 12:30 p.m. Contest categories will be judged in float, marching band and Indian car competitions.

For more information, contact Irene Culley at (918) 756-9911 ext. 334. Entry deadline is May 31 by 4:30 p.m.

3 on 3 Adult Basketball Tournament

The 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament will begin Saturday at 8 a.m. Participants must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe and provide a CDIB or enrollment card. The deadline is June 13.

For more information, contact Micco Freeman at (918) 759-0605.

Volleyball Tournament

The Volleyball tournament will beginning at 9 a.m. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place will be awarded. The deadline will be June 10.

For more information, contact Christine Denny at (918) 296-3331.

Church Adult/Youth Mushball Tournament

The Mushball tournament will begin at 9 a.m. Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be given. Deadline for entry fee is June 3.

For more information contact Victor Bear at (918) 261-2315.

Church Events

Church celebration

HITCHITA — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be celebrating 148 years on May 29 at 6 p.m.

There will be gospel singing and the "word" spoken. Dinner will be served between 4 and 5:30 p.m.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. Concession will be available thru the evening. Signs will be posted.

Speakers will be announced as follows.

For more information, please call 918-752-0980.

Gospel Singing

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church will be having their annual gospel singing on May 29 at 7 p.m.

The emcee's will be Springfield members. Concession will be available.

The church is located two miles south on Highway 27 from Okemah, four miles east and then one mile south.

Memorial Gospel Singing

BRAGGS — Ward Coachman Memorial Gospel Singing will be held May 29 at Sand Spring Baptist Church beginning at 7 p.m.

The emcee will be Curtis Kinney. All gospel singers and listeners welcome. Bring your own lawn chairs. Concession will be available.

The church is located one mile south of Braggs then one mile west.

For more information, call (918) 682-4703.

Church Revival

KONAWA — Cold Springs Baptist will be having a revival June 13 through 16 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.

The evangelist is Johnny Shomo of Idabel. The song leader is Keeno King of Big Cypress New Testament Baptist Church.

Vacation Bible School will also be held June 13 through 17. The schedule includes: aerobics, 6:30 a.m.; breakfast, 7:30 a.m. and bible school begins at 9 a.m.

The church is located 3 ¼ miles east of Konawa.

Creek Hymn Singing

OKMULGEE — Creek hymn singing will be presented at the 31st Annual Muscogee (Creek) Festival on June 17th & 18th.

The church limit has increased this year to the first 15 churches of the Methodist and Baptist denomination.

Those churches that are interested in participating in the Creek hymn singing, call Helen Coon at 227-0896 or Mike Coon at 693-3391.

Reunion Memorial Gospel Singing

KONAWA — A reunion memorial gospel singing will be held June 19th at Cold Springs Baptist Church beginning at 10 a.m.

The emcee will be Keeno King of Big Cypress New Testament Baptist Church.

Special guests include: Crosby's of Broken Bow; Gastineaus of Ada; The Orphan Family of Vanoss and the Seminole Boys Reunion.

All solo, duets and quartets welcome.

The church is located 3 ¼ miles east of Konawa.

Vacation Bible School

SAPULPA — Little Cussetah Baptist Church will be having their Vacation Bible School June 20 through 24.

Indian Falls Creek 2005

DAVIS — Indian Falls Creek 2005 will be held on August 1 through 5. The theme for Indian Falls Creek 2005 will be "Fill the House".

The camp preacher will be Clint Sinclair, a well known evangelist. The worship team will consist of Jesse Hernandez, Tyrone Smith, Donna Bear and Neil Thompson.

The registration fees for adults through 6 years old is $20 and for children 5 years and younger is $8.

For housing options, please call Slim Crabtree, housing director, at 405-382-2334 or Jim Gordon at 405-382-3564.

For more information contact, Victor Cope at 405-598-8720 or e-mail at NDNrev@aol.com.

If you would like to have your church events announced, mail them to *Muscogee Nation News*, Attention: Jennifer, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, fax at (918) 758-0824 or e-mail at jtaryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

God transformed anger to hope, says Oklahoma City bombing widow

by Noah Long, Pacer Newspaper

NORMAN — Anne Marshall's anger toward God transformed her belief and restored "hope" in her life.

Marshall's anger started 10 years ago when her husband, Raymond Johnson, was killed with 167 others in the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. She shared her feelings on the 10th anniversary of the bombing during a memorial service at Norman First American United Methodist Church. The service was one of many held across the metro Oklahoma City area on April 19, the anniversary date of the bombing.

Marshall served for 12 years as an executive with the United Methodist Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns in New York City. She is a member of the Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church, near Holdenville.

She told of watching the execution of convicted bomber Timothy McVeigh, how she struggled with her decision to attend the execution and how she came to a stance on the death penalty.

"I got a lot of hate mail because I went against the Social Principles on the death penalty and I wouldn't want to go through that again," Marshall said. In its Social Principles, the United Methodist Church states its opposition to capital punishment.

Marshall was one of 10 victims or survivors drawn from a lottery system to attend the execution in June 2001.

"It's true if the government wants to find you, they can," she said. "They tracked me down to Arizona to tell me I was one of the 10 selected to attend the execution of Timothy McVeigh."

Before she accepted the invitation, she consulted with United Methodist bishops and with her tribal elders. A member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Marshall said it was the tradition of her tribe that persuaded her to attend the execution.

"In our tribe, if Tim McVeigh killed my husband, he could come before the tribe and ask for penitence, and it was up to the people whether to accept that. If they didn't accept it, it would be up to him to set his own execution date," Marshall said. With that in mind, she made the trip to Terre Haute, Indiana, to witness McVeigh's execution.

"I didn't go with thoughts of revenge, and I prayed during the execution that God would restore my hope," Marshall said. She said she turned down requests for television interviews following the execution, although she was asked to represent the "faith community" before the TV cameras.

Her struggle with the bombing led her from anger to peace during the past 10 years.

"These 10 years have been a challenge," Marshall said. "I was angry with God, and it had nothing to do with Timothy McVeigh and (convicted coconspirator) Terry Nichols, but with God, and it wasn't until I went to a sacred mountain and saw the pure white snow (that) God spoke to me and said, 'This is who I am. Can you accept me?"

Marshall said that moment started the healing process.

"I'm much wiser in my relationship with others," she said. "I now believe in 'quality' time with people, rather than 'quantity' time. God can restore people with hope. I now have the confidence that hope has been restored."

The 10th anniversary memorial service ended with a traditional "cedar ceremony," conducted by Steve Littleman, a Kiowa tribal elder. The cedar ceremony symbolizes a cleansing of the spirit.

Farm to be offering Workshops

SALLISAW — The Overstreet-Kerr Historical Farm, located ten miles south of Sallisaw, is a place where fun and learning go hand-in-hand.

This spring the farm is again offering free workshops for school classes and a series of Saturday morning workshops for adults, reports Jeremy Henson, education coordinator.

The student workshops offer kids third grade and up a hands-on learning experience.

In the crosscut sawing workshop, students can learn how to use a saw and the many uses of wood on the Oklahoma farmstead 100 years ago.

Other youth workshops will cover native trees/erosion prevention, poultry, and eggs, rare breeds of livestock/antique farm equipment and the family orchard-featuring the farm's heirloom varieties of fruit trees.

The workshops for adults will be held on Saturday mornings in April and May. There is a small registration fee and advance registration is required (deadline one week before the workshop).

Workshops are: April 2, vintage scrapbooking; April 16, rug hooking; April 30, ornamental landscaping for wildlife; May 14, in miniature pottery.

Workshops participants will also receive a tour and history of the 1895 home, barnyard and outbuildings.

The Overstreets were prosperous farmers in the Choctaw Nation. The home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 2004, the historical farm won "Best Attraction" honors from the Oklahoma Department of Tourism.

Preregistration is required for all workshops. Contact the farm at (918) 966-3396, e-mail at okhfarm@crosste.net, or visit kerrcenter.com for complete workshop information.

Animal Identification Service

OKLAHOMA CITY — The National animal identification program, a plan that will make it possible to trace the premise of origin for virtually all livestock produced in the United States within 48 hours, was a featured topic recently at the 2005 Governor's Conference on Agriculture and Economic Growth in Clinton and Muskogee.

State Veterinarian, Dr. Becky Brewer, said she hoped that her presentation clarified the subject and has helped producers become more comfortable with the program.

"Animal ID has had some controversy simply because it's a somewhat complicated process," Brewer said. "The producers who attend our conferences are going to have a much better handle on animal identification and what it's going to take for them to get their premises registered."

Brewer brought members of her staff to both conferences to help livestock growers register their premises on the spot if they wished.

Brewer notes that approved Animal Identification Number (AIN) will be available beginning in July or August but owners must have their premise identification number before they can obtain their AIN.

Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture , Terry Peach, said each conference will offer other programs tailored for the producers of western and eastern Oklahoma, respectively.

Future conferences will be planned on topics such animal identification as well as several topics related to Agriculture, and Economic Growth.

For more information write the Governor's Conference on Agriculture and Economic Growth at: P.O. Box 54564, Oklahoma City, OK 73118.

Oklahoma Challenges the EPA

OKLAHOMA CITY — The state of Oklahoma has filed a lawsuit challenging the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recognition of tribal sovereignty.

The EPA granted the Pawnee Tribe as treatment-as-state status. The designation recognizes the tribe's right to establish and enforce its own water standards.

Similar designations have been made for tribes throughout the nation. But the State of Oklahoma claims it will lead to a confusing system where up to 38 tribes in the state could set their own, differing standards.

In the past, our challenges to EPA's treatment-as-state- program have failed. On one occasion, the EPA was forced to withdraw designations for Wisconsin tribes due to falsification of documents by EPA employees.

USDA delays border opening

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture, Terry Peach said he is asking incoming USDA Secretary of Agriculture, Mike Johanns to delay opening America's borders to Canadian cattle and beef products until a thorough assessment of that country's enforcement of cattle feed laws is complete.

"The news coming out of Canada is unsettling to most of our cattlemen," Peach said. "The latest Canadian cow diagnosed with BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy) was born seven months after the feed ban went in to effect and the cattleman who owned the cow said he purchased the feed supplement that proved to be contaminated a full year after the ban."

Creek youth wins Livestock title at the Okfuskee County Livestock Show

PADEN — In the March issue of the *Muscogee Nation News,* the agriculture page reported how the success of the local 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) programs are helping Creek youth in the fields of livestock care and nurturing. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has also committed itself to supporting agricultural programs concerning tribal youth. With the assistance, more and more Muscogee (Creek) children are seeing their goals become reality.

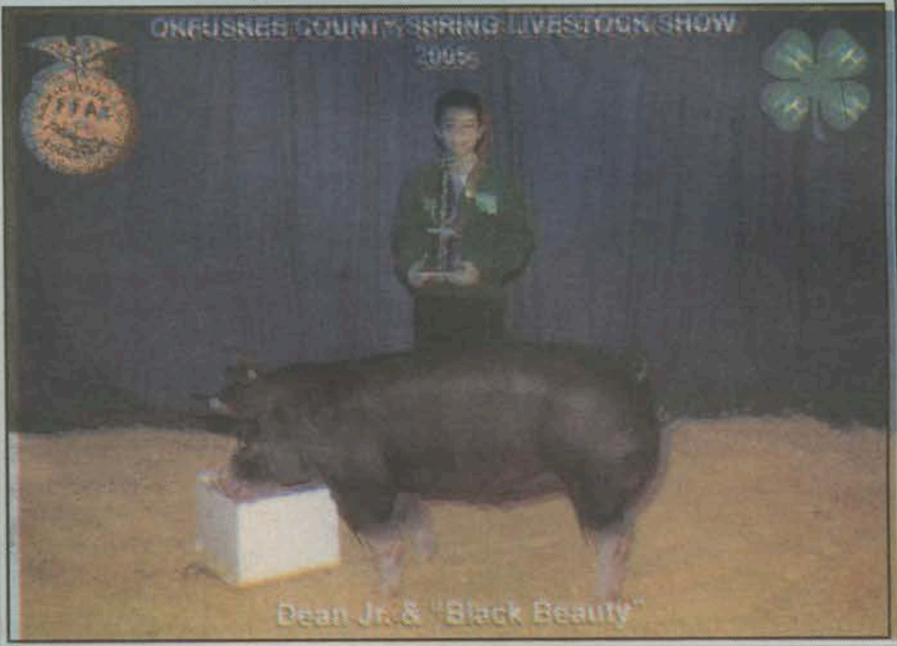
Muscogee (Creek) citizen Dean Lee, Jr. is a good example of what hard work can do for someone. Lee recently entered his Berkshire Swine named Black Beauty in competition at the 2005 Okfuskee County Spring Livestock Show held in Okemah.

Lee competed against several livestock owners and earned the title of "Breed Champion" with his entry.

"I like to thank the Creek Nation for their support at the event and their support of 4-H and FFA," said Lee.

Lee has dedicated himself at a young age to properly raising his livestock correctly. He is in the fourth grade and is a member of the Okfuskee County 4-H program.

Lee is the son of Ron Lee and Tracey Humphrey.


OKFUSKEE COUNTY SPRING LIVESTOCK SHOW
2005
FFA
Dean Jr. & "Black Beauty"

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Pediatric Dentist -Okmulgee:
Requirements: Must be eligible for Pediatric Licensure in the state of Oklahoma.

Van Driver (3 positions):
Muskogee ENP and Twin Hills ENP
Okmulgee ENP (Part Time)
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler's permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

CEO - Division of Health Administration:
Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities; Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contract Health services. In addition candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the filed.

Secretary for Reintegration Program:
Requirements: Associates in Science Degree with emphasis on Secretarial or Administrative Assistance is preferred or five years relevant work experience in office management. Work experience in an office environment with adult and/or juvenile legal or social services is preferred. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's license and be insurable.

Staff Dentist (Part-Time):
Requirements: A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

Pharmacist:
Requirements: A graduate of an accredited college / university of Pharmacy or is a Public Health Service Pharmacy Officer. One year relevant experience as a Pharmacist or PHS Pharmacy Officer. Must possess a current Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy license or current license as required by the PHS Commissioned Corp.

Maintenance Technician:
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of training or program in carpentry, building/property maintenance or related field is preferred. One year relevant experience in facility maintenance is required. Relevant professional licenses or certifications related to position are not required but will benefit the incumbent.

Case Manager for the Reintegration Program:
Requirements: A Bachelors Degree in Social. A minimum of four years work experience related to parole supervision or counselling. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Drivers license and be insurable.

Breast Feeding Peer Counselor (WIC):
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED is required. One year of relevant experience is required. Valid driver's license is required and must be insurable. Incumbent must have a telephone and reliable transportation.

Receptionist - BHS - Sapulpa:
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A minimum of one year related experience is required.

Grant Writer:
Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with emphasis in Finance, Marketing, Communications, Journalism, or related area of study is preferred. An Associated Degree is required. A minimum of three years of relevant experience is preferred. An equivalent amount of experience may be substituted for educational requirement. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Dental Support Assistant- Sapulpa:
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A minimum of one year related experience is required. Certificate of completion of a program or training in Medical Office Technology or related field is preferred but not required.

Medical Lab Technician - Okemah:
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Successful completion of 60 semester hours of academic credit necessary to satisfy requirements of the position as well as a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques at an accredited institution is preferred. Two years of relevant full-time Laboratory experience performing highly complex testing as a Technician Trainee may be substituted for the educational requirements.

CHR Coordinator / Secretary:
Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A minimum of one year related experience is required. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable. Maintenance of a clean driving record and ability to be insured is required for continued employment. This position requires the employee to maintain a residential telephone.

Diabetes Educator / Coordinator - Eufaula:
Requirements: Graduation as a RN (required) or BSN (preferred) curriculum from an accredited professional school of nursing and possess a current State of Oklahoma Nursing License. Certification as a Diabetes Educator (CDE) is preferred, however incumbent is required to obtain CDE status by the end of three years and maintain this certification thereafter. One year relevant experience is preferred. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Health System Administrator - CNCH:
Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Management, or related field of study is required. A Masters Degree in a related field is preferred. A minimum of two years of experience in the health care management / administration is required, preferably in a tribal environment.

Special Projects Officer:
Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field is required. A minimum of three years relevant experience is required. Substantial relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements Incumbent must possess valid Oklahoma State Driver License and be insurable.

Trade & Commerce

Trade and Commerce is accepting applications for the following:

Travel Plaza - Okmulgee

Travel Plaza - Muskogee

Muscogee Document Imaging

Farm Authority

For more information on employment opportunities at Trade & Commerce please contact Alexis at 918-732-7764.

These jobs have an Indian Preference.

Council

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the Checotah Indian Community;

- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-041, authorizing the appropriation of funds for higher education, a division of Human Development, a division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to store documents, to include preparing, batching, sorting, imaging, inputting and indexing;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-046, amending MCNCA Title 18, § 2-102, F., entitled "Higher Education - tribal grants" and appropriating funds to the higher education tribal grants program;

representative **Pickering** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (17-0-0) NCA 05-049, enacting a new law governing the enactment and codification of the worker's benefits legislation;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-050, appropriating reserve funds for implementation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation worker's compensation benefit code;
- approved (16-2-0) NCA 05-051, amending MCNCA Title 21, § 4-102, allowing for mileage and stipends for gaming operations authority board members to attend National Council meetings and mileage for official business;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-053, amending NCA 03-092 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing a tribal partnerships public relations fund and appropriating funds for said purpose) to authorize the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to expend appropriated funds for public relations campaigns;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-055, appropriating funds for the incidental costs associated with accepting a deed for a tract of property in Hughes County, Oklahoma for use by the Dustin Indian Community;

Speaker **Yahola** relinquished the chair to Second Speaker **Berryhill** to address NCA 05-057;

- approved as amended (18-0-0) NCA 05-057, authorizing the expenditure of interest monies and the nation received from the deposit of various Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) funds that have been invested at interest and ear marked for the IRR program;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-058, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the emergency medical assistance program for fiscal year 2005;
- died on the floor (18-0-0) NCA 05-059, appropriating funds for the construction of a new Muscogee (Creek) Nation department of Justice and Lighthorse administration building;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-060, appropriating funds for incidental costs associated with accepting a deed for a tract of property in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by the Checotah Indian community;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-061, appropriating funds for incidental costs associated with accepting a deed for a tract of property in McIntosh County, Oklahoma for use by the Checotah Indian community;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-062, authorizing a budget modification for the office of Public Gaming for the operation of said office for the remainder of FY 2005;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-063, authorizing the appropriation of funds for Higher Education for the hiring of a president and an executive assistant for the tribal college in accordance with NCA 04-151, section 113. D.;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-065, amending NCA 04-233 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 03-242 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the purchase, construction, and erection of a building that will be in addition to the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino to provide extra floor space for additional electronic gaming machines) and to appropriate funds for the renovation project at Creek Nation Tulsa Casino) to add digital Cameras to the existing casino;
- died on the floor (18-0-0) NCA 05-066, authorizing a special appropriation to the citizens of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Stomp Dancers to attend the Gathering of Nations on April 30, 2005 to perform a Stomp Dance at the Miss Indian World Crowning;

representative **Jones** arrived before vote count was taken;

- failed (7-11-1) NCA 05-067, authorizing a special appropriation to a Muscogee (Creek) Student for financial assistance;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

abstain were: **Jones**, Okmulgee;

- approved as amended (15-4-0) NCA 05-068, authorizing a special appropriation for renovations and repairs to the Concharty United Methodist Church;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved as amended (16-3-0) TR 05-055, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, and to enter into an agreement with the Arbeka Ceremonial Ground for use of the property;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

- approved (17-2-0) NCA 05-054, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Okmulgee, County, Oklahoma, for the use by the Arbeka Ceremonial Ground;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; and **Watson**, Okfuskee.

March 31, Extraordinary session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

representative **Pickering** arrived before vote count was taken;

In order of business the Council:

- approved (15-0-0) TR 05-063, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an "amendment of solicitation/modification of contract" related to the "construction management services contract" between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Flintco, Inc. for costs associated with constructing the Koweta Indian Health Facility;

April 16, Emergency session

Absent were: **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Sue Johnson**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

representative **Wind** arrived during the committee as a whole;

- approved (17-0-0) TR 05-069, authorizing the Principal Chief to prepare and submit an application for a social and economical development strategy grant to develop and implement the gifts in kind empowering Native Americans engaging resources achieving tribal initiative outreach network system (generations).

Editor's Note:

At the request of representative Tom Pickering, the March 5 Regular Session minutes reported that at the time roll call was taken he was recorded as absent, however, he arrived at the meeting before any voting had taken place.

East Central University undergraduate writes article on diabetes and its effects on Native Americans

By Muscogee (Creek) Jennifer R. Pigeon

HENRYETTA—"The following article not only accurately describes diabetes as a disease within the Native American population but also demonstrates the concern Ms. Pigeon has for the effects of the disease in her tribe, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. She identifies options and resources that are available within the MCN that can lead us toward better health. We are fortunate to have young people who are educated and are looking for ways to make life better for their tribe." says Johnnie Brasuell, MCN Diabetes Program Coordinator.

Many Native Americans are living in a world of constant anguish. They are hurting, aching, and in some cases dying, all from a disease that affects an enormous number of the native population. Diabetes is a very serious disease for many people, and is a very serious disease for many people and is especially prevalent among tribal members. It is a world filled with constant monitoring of food, blood sugar levels, doctor's visits, medication, and needles. For many Native Americans this disease is a risk they live with everyday. Many are suffering either in their own life or are being forced to experience the suffering of family members.

Native people are extremely vulnerable to diabetes. Current studies, using the Thrifty Gene Theory, suggest that Native Americans, who historically live off the land, are now living a different life-style. This has affected their ability to convert sugars into energy. But the theory is still being heavily researched.

The American Diabetes Association states that on average, Native Americans are 2.2 times more likely to be diagnosed as a non-Hispanic white person of the same age. Diabetes is a disease that is extremely serious but in a culture where it is prevalent, seems to be thought of as simply a risk of life, like the possibility of being hit by a bus. However, the truth is that diabetes is the fifth deadliest disease in the United States. It is an illness with no real cure, and in most cases is handed down through simple genetics.

Diabetes is a complex disease because there are differing types and a wide array of complications due to the disease. Diabetes is classified as a group rather than one disease. The American Diabetes Association defines diabetes as a group of diseases characterized by high levels of blood glucose resulting in defects in insulin production, insulin action, or both.

Type 1 diabetes is also known as juvenile-onset diabetes. This type of disease develops when the body's immune system destroys pancreatic beta cells. Beta cells make insulin, a hormone that regulates blood glucose. Though this disease is no less serious than other types of diabetes it only accounts for 5 to 10 percent of all diabetic cases. Type 1 diabetes is more common in children and adolescents, but can be diagnosed at any age. A number of factors can lead to the onset of Type 1 diabetes like autoimmune and environmental factors. The most likely cause seems to point towards genetics.

The most common and predominant form of diabetes is Type 2. This type of diabetes is usually diagnosed in adulthood and counts for 98 percent of all diagnosis of the disease. Instead of the body destroying beta cells, it simply begins a shut down process by resisting insulin. The body then begins to inappropriately use insulin, causing a rise in the need for insulin in parts of the body that regularly require the proper use of insulin, like the pancreas. Eventually without the proper use of insulin, the pancreas can lose its ability to make the insulin it needs. Insulin is a hormone needed in the body to break down carbohydrates and sugars in the blood. Type 2 diabetes is a gradual disease that is affected by metabolic rate, weight, physical inactivity, impaired glucose tolerance, and above all, family history.

Gestational diabetes is also a major concern for Native American women. This form of diabetes occurs during pregnancy and disappears when the baby is born. However many women who are diagnosed with gestational diabetes find they are at a much higher risk for a full- blown Type 2 diagnosis in the future.

There is no cure for diabetes, but with aggressive studies, treatment of the disease, is available. Controlling the effects of diabetes is a matter of monitoring. Many victims of Type 2 diabetes can curb the effects of the disease through weight loss, diet, and exercise. More and more studies are now testing the notion that digression of diabetes is possible with immediate intervention. Others require more extreme measures like oral medication or insulin injections. Those who obtain to maintain survival. Years ago a Type 1 diagnosis could mean a death sentence in a world where diabetes and its effects were unknown. Because of medical advances and technology, many Native Americans do not have to suffer with a disease their ancestors knew nothing about.

Many complications can stem from a diabetes diagnosis. Patients who acquire the disease are at risk for circulation problems, weight fluctuation, high blood pressure, heart disease, blindness, problems with the feet and legs, possible amputation, and can even suffer from stroke. Diabetic research has made great discoveries about the benefits of intervention. Simple weight loss and an increase in exercise can make a great difference in the progression of Type 2 diabetes. By also changing life-style habits like diet, attitude, and exercise schedules, tribal members can reduce their risk of getting the disease and also reduce the risk of complications due to diabetes.

The need to educate tribal members about the dangers of diabetes can be a great task, especially since the number of diabetic diagnoses is steadily rising. through many people within a Native American tribe have been affected in some way by diabetes, many lack the knowledge needed to avoid the disease. Diabetes is not a disease that is acquired overnight. The body produces signs and warning that lead up to a diabetic diagnosis.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is making great strides in its attempt to educate its people about the threat of diabetes. The tribe operates its own Diabetes Health System located in the city of tribal headquarters in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. The health system offers the education needed to prevent future epidemics of diabetes. The Diabetes Health System is the base for diabetes health clinics located all over the Muscogee Nation. Centers located in Okemah, Eufaula, Okmulgee, and Sapulpa were all created with the need for education in mind. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program Coordinator, Johnnie Brasuell, says the diabetes education program is funded by a $1.6 million dollar grant given by Congress to the Indian Health Services and then distributed to tribes for the sole purpose of establishing and developing diabetes assistance for Native Americans. The program created is called EPIC (Education Partners in Care). It is a nationally recognized self-management education program.

The diabetic facilities not only educate tribal members of the risk of developing diabetes, they also monitor the progress of those already diagnosed with the disease, and provide a more positive outlook on the diagnosis of diabetes for the patient. Each clinic is able to annually monitor patients for problems with their feet, eyes, kidneys, teeth, and heart. The program and its facilities are now operating under a Level 3 status, which is the highest rating given by Indian Health Services.

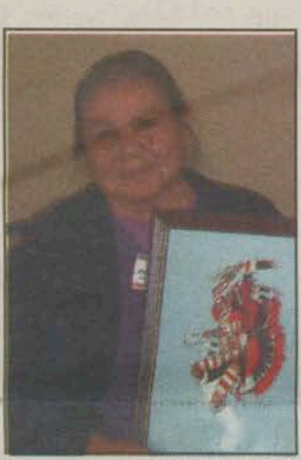
Programs managed and operated by tribes have the best chance at reaching those in the most need of diabetes intervention. The disease is incredibly complex and when taken seriously can be overcome, if not cured. Research and manageability are the first steps to combating this disease.

For those at greater risk along with those already diagnosed, education and self-management has become the best proven method of treatment. The more tribes attempt to educate its citizens about the warning signs and prevention methods of diabetes, the less likely the disease will become the fate of larger portions of tribal members. Experts and educators are working together to spread the notion that diabetes in controllable and preventable. It is the first step to ensuring the healthiness and well being of the younger generation and the future of Nation American tribes.

First group of elderly housing residents have get-together

OKMUGLEE — The first group of residents presently living at the newly constructed Muscogee (Creek) Nation Elderly Housing Addition were treated to an informal get-together. The Gathering was the first for the original group of residents of the elderly addition and gave them an opportunity to get acquainted with each of the other residents living in the addition. Held at the 4600 sq. ft. multipurpose community building. Residents were treated to refreshments and door prizes along with a guest visit from Creek Nation Senior Services Manager, Jackson Barnett. Mr. Barnett mentioned some of the services has department provides for elderly Creek citizens and, what seemed to be of great interest to most residents, the provision of transportation a few times a week for shopping and appointments.

Elderly Housing Meeting


Elderly Housing Resident

Funded through NAHASDA and operated by the Creek Housing Division, the housing addition is an independent living community that provides an environment where elderly Creek citizens can enjoy the independence of performing their basic daily activities while living in a safe and convenient atmosphere. The elderly addition is capable of providing living accommodations for 16 resident household in fully furnished 2 bedroom duplex units.

Elderly Housing Resident

Creek Housing Addition Manager, Linda Lowe, and Community Building Manager, Ivalene Tottress, also addressed the group and let the group know that the Community building would begin providing meals, through Title VI the Elderly Nutrition Program, along with other services within the next few weeks.

Mortgage Assistance Program Helps Native Americans become first time homeowners

OKMULGEE — The Mortgage Assistance Program helps Native American people become first time homeowners. The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to assist eligible clients with down payment and closing costs associated with obtaining mortgage loans. To be eligible, clients must meet program guidelines established by the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA). When a clientis determined eligible they will then be referred to an outside lender.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Do I Have to live in Creek Nation?

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mortgage Assistance Program's policy states that every applicant must be willing to reside within the boundaries of the Creek Nation.

Do I Have to find my own lender?

If you have already been pre-approved for a mortgage loan, we will work with your lender if they are HUD certified. If you don't have a lender, we will refer you to a HUD certified lender that is familiar with the program and knows how the Mortgage Assistance Program works.

What is a steady income?

Income is money from employment, retirement income, Social Security, Veteran benefits, and other income that comes in regularly. Unfortunately, Workman's Comp benefits, student income, and unemployment benefits do not qualify as steady income.

How long does this home buying process take?

Usually, if the client has good credit, steady income, all documents are in order, and is willing to participate in the program, they may be a homeowner within 3 to 4 months.

Applying For Services

1) Submit a Mortgage Assistance Program application completely with copies of necessary documents.

2) M.A.P will determine if the applicant meets all the program criteria.

3) A letter of eligibility and supporting documents will be given to the client to take to an outside lender.

4) The lender will determine and pre-approve a mortgage loan.

5) If approved by the lender for a loan, the applicant finds a home.

6) The lender will notify M.A.P. of the purchase price.

7) M.A.P. will prepare the down payment and closing costs assistance check.

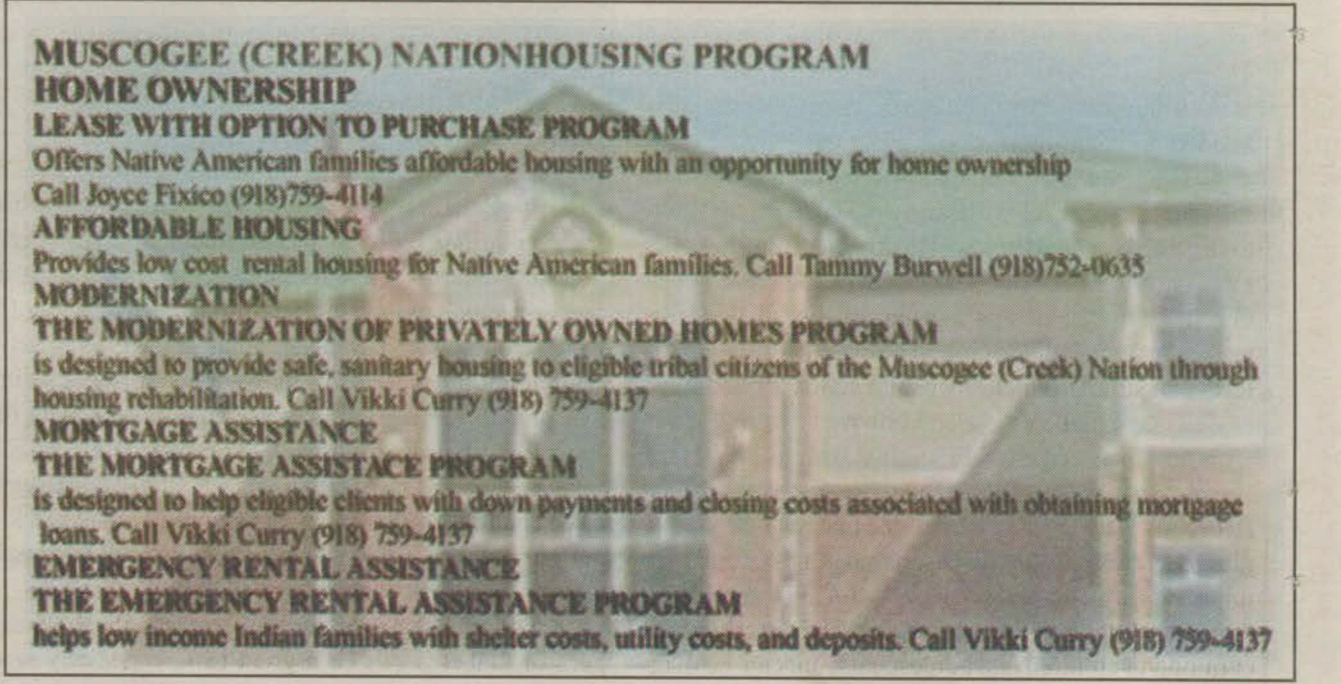
8) M.A.P. will go to the closing with their client, if needed for support, and will provide the lender with the check and other necessary documents.

9) The loan will close.

10) Congratulations! You are now a homeowner!!

The applicant must be aware that M.A.P. eligibility does not guarantee a mortgage loan from an outside lender.

For more information about the Mortgage Assistance Program call (918) 759-4137



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONHOUSING PROGRAM
HOME OWNERSHIP
LEASE WITH OPTION TO PURCHASE PROGRAM
Offers Native American families affordable housing with an opportunity for home ownership
Call Joyce Fixico (918)759-4114
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Provides low cost rental housing for Native American families. Call Tammy Burwell (918)752-0635
MODERNIZATION
THE MODERNIZATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES PROGRAM
is designed to provide safe, sanitary housing to eligible tribal citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation through housing rehabilitation. Call Vikki Curry (918) 759-4137
MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE
THE MORTGAGE ASSISTACE PROGRAM
is designed to help eligible clients with down payments and closing costs associated with obtaining mortgage loans. Call Vikki Curry (918) 759-4137
EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE
THE EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
helps low income Indian families with shelter costs, utility costs, and deposits. Call Vikki Curry (918) 759-4137

Spotlight

One day you are going to college and you will not have to worry how you are going to pay for it.

Creek citizens become heroes to people

by Gerald Wofford

Normally we tend to dedicate our Spotlight page to a single individual, which is usually rightfully deserved. But this time, we would like to dedicate our page to two worthy individuals.

The first person worthy of the spotlight page is Paul Thompson. Thompson resides in Hectorville, Oklahoma and is employed with Doc's Grocery in Glenpool and can be labeled as a modern day hero.

Thompson is only 21 but has obtained life saving experience. A couple of weeks ago, while working his regular shift, a customer suffered a heart attack. Its unfortunate at this time that many people tend to panic and all sense of conclusions or answers may seem to disappear, but not Thompson, who had been trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, or CPR. Thompson performed CPR on the victim until Emergency Medical Services (EMS) could arrive. The services came just as soon as possible, but Thompson had to be seriously committed to staying with the patient until EMS was able to finally arrive.

Gary Berryhill, who is a neighbor of Thompson, agrees that Thompson is certainly a hero in his book. "He was going to make sure that the patient was cared for until help arrived, and he did."

Thompson already had experience in the life saving business though. Just a year before this unfortunate incident occurred, Thompson was visiting a cousin, who at the time, was preparing to take a cold medication. Unfortunately, the medicine had a severe reaction to his cousin, which caused a cardiac arrest. Thompson was able to perform CPR on his cousin until he was life-flighted to the nearest hospital.

Thanks to the cool reaction of Thompson, both patients were able to survive to receive proper medical attention.

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May is traditionally thought of as graduation time, commencements, a time of ending and the start of a new beginning. From children barely old enough to say the word commencement to others, shall we say, more seasoned, will be throwing the traditional tassel and hat into the air.

Tulsa Community College (TCC) is one of the million educational institutions that fall in line and have practiced commencement exercises for its graduation class. For the first time, the school will be giving degrees in Native American Studies and will be graduating the greatest amount of Native American students ever. The students of Native American descent only number six, but will be specially recognized before and during the ceremonies. In fact, the Native American students will be the first to bring in the graduating class with a special traditional ceremony to begin the evening.

Leading this special group will be Salena Watashe. Watashe explains that the TCC Native American Student Association (NASA) will lead in the graduating class with a victory song, and a honor guard as well. Because there will be many tribes represented, the group has decided on a Ponca Victory Song.

Watashe has worked for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for over 12 years in different capacities. She has served as an administrative assistant in the facilities department, as well the Tribal Roads Department.

"I decided to go to college in the fall of 2003," said Watashe. "I always wanted to go but didn't know what I wanted to major in, and financially, I didn't have the means to go."

Watashe's plan was to go to school full time and not have to divide her time between work and getting a degree. So she had to make a few life changing decisions. "I had to quit work for almost a year in order to receive a full pell grant. But the reality of not being able to obtain a good paying job without a degree was paramount in deciding on going to college," explains Watashe.

Watashe wants to better herself by first obtaining an Associates Degree in Human Services and completing a degree in Alcohol/Chemical Dependency Counseling. Watashe has already made the Dean's honor roll.

"All Salena wants to do is help her Indian people", says her mother Maxine, who has proudly watched her daughter do well in school.

"My desire is to work with the Indian people whether local or throughout the reservations," says Salena. "I just want to be able to help those who are in need. Right now I only have my associates degree and with that I can began applying with the State of Oklahoma to be a certified counselor. Once I receive my bachelors degree I will be able to go into any area of Human Services and work in fields like corrections and family services."

Watashe also admits gaining inspiration from her elders. "As I think about myself graduating," says Watashe, "I consider all to be an honor, but mostly I think about the last lengthy conversation that I was blessed to have had with my aunt Lilly Cox just before she died in April of 1997. She told me one day you are going to go to college and you will not have to worry how you are going to pay for it. The goals that you set will be met, but only if you allow the Lord to lead you, never give up and always keep your eyes on the Lord. So as I accept my degree I will do so in honor of her."

Christian Rock Music Fest coming

TAHLEQUAH — Several church youth pastors and representatives met to discuss plans to bring what's destined to be the biggest concert event ever in Tahlequah according to event coordinators. The four day event is slated for Sept. 14 through 17 at the Cherokee County Rodeo Grounds located on Highway 82 south of the city.

Titled, "Kingdom Rockfest," the concert will showcase the best of Christian rock, rap, Latino, contemporary, and modern worship music to one place.

Sponsored initially be the United Tribes for Christ Fellowship (UTFCF), city-wide sponsorships are sought from businesses, churches, organizations or individuals to defray the cost of this huge event.

Visionary group members include: Amy Carey, Tonya Bryant, Doug Bryant, Dobson Rooster, Paul Carey, Kristin Bryant, Denise Rooster, and not pictured Jordan Rooster.

The concert coordinators have met with the Tahlequah Tourism Council and are awaiting their endorsement at their next scheduled meeting. The local concert promoters, headed by UTFCF events coordinator, Nancy Goate, and local events coordinators Tonya Bryant and Denise Rooster, also attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting where an additional endorsement is awaiting as well. Many area youth pastors and individuals have expressed great enthusiasm and support, as well as Campus Christian Fellowship, the Wesley Foundation, and Baptist Collegiate Ministries of Northeastern State University.

Millions of people recognize the names and music of the Christian rock and contemporary Christian artists slated to appear, including Nicole C. Mullen, Toby Mac, Pillar, Disciple, Charity Von, and Latino sensation, Salvador. These artist have garnered both Dove and Grammy Awards and nominations, and Salvador has toured the world with the Franklin Graham Crusades.

The second evening will open with worship music led by local worship singer/songwriter, Becky Wright. Wright has two recordings of her own and many Nashville-published songs, including 2 songs recently released by Christian artist, Jeanie Kay Truesdale, who was nominated for female vocalist of the Year in 2004 by the CCMA (Christian Country Music Association). Her CD, "I Know Him," is available nationwide at Wal-Mart and Family Christian Bookstores. Other local groups will be appearing, including Visionary, Silas, Cherokee Youth Choir, and I Believe Ministries with Brian Jackson.

Another tremendous draw will be the opening day Battle of the Bands contest. Local bands interested in competing for prizes such as free studio recording time and more should contact local Events Coordinator Tonya Bryant at (918) 458-6468 or Denise Rooster at (918) 458-9226 or (918) 931-2532. The two step application process includes an interview with local youth pastors by each band member/artist, and playing some music.

A reasonable price for entry is still being determined. The top band will open for Pillar. Fox TV is slated to air the event, as well as KLove Christian Radio out of Oklahoma City. Frontier Music from Lawton will supply the million-dollar stage, lights, sound system, 5 TV cameras, giant screens, etc. that will be viewable from the highway in front of the rodeo grounds.

Local businesses, churches, and organizations are urged to get involved with publicizing the event, as well as financial sponsorship. The top 10 sponsors, or financial donors, will be advertised in a TV commercial which will air numerous times on Fox TV during prime time preceding the festival. Some sponsorship levels also will include the names of the sponsors imprinted on all the volunteers' t-shirts, a banner, and recognition at the concerts.

Native American Actor makes Tulsa stop for movie premiere

TULSA — April 15 marked the official day of tax day for some, for others, it was the Tulsa premiere of the film "Black Cloud." The film about the story of a young Navajo Boxer who has the talent, desire, and dreams to make the U.S. Olympic Boxing team. The film stars: Eddie Spears, Tim McGraw, Ricky Schroder, Tim Sampson, Russell Means, as well as Branscombe Richmond.

Richmond made a stop in Tulsa for the opening premiere night, which was held at the Eastland Mall Cinema.

The film was held in part with the Red Fork Native American Film Festival, as well as the Tulsa Community College (TCC) Native American Studies Program, Eastland Mall Cinema, and the Tulsa Public Library.

Richmond talked about the film with the audience after the showing. Richmond congratulated Schroder on creating the project. Schroder not only took it upon himself as being director of the film, but also dedicated himself to finding the proper funding and distribution of the film.

"A big hand ought to be given to Ricky about this project," said Richmond. "He (Schroder) could have chosen to make this story about any race of people, from Irish, or Italian, even Japanese. But he chose to make it in Indian Country, and use Indian talent."

Richmond explained to the audience that Schroder had selected a unique part of the southwest in Arizona to film the project, to capture a scenic place of America.

Actor Branscombe Richmond at the premiere of "Black Cloud"

Richmond also talked about how film companies are beginning to take notice of Native American film themes and projects, but also emphasized how much Indian artists need to tell their own stories.

"I know there are a lot of good Indian writers out there, and the stories need to be told," said Richmond. "Don't give up on telling those stories! We need to hear more and more good stories and people need to know that Indians can share good stories!"

Richmond plays the part of Peter in the film, who is the Father of Sammi Haski, played by Julia Jones. "He's a normal regular father worrying about his daughter," says Richmond, "He's just about like any normal All American Dad."

Richmond also mentioned that he shared a little advice with the star of the movie, Eddie Spears, during production. "I told him (Spears) to make sure you take care of your body." grinned Spears, "You start getting big and the camera won't like you as much."

Spears is best known for his part of Bobby Sixkiller in the syndicated television series "Renegade." Richmond has also garnered other awards such as USA's Native American Entertainer of the Year, the Las Vegas Review Journal's Showman of the Year, the CMA's People's Choice Award for Humanitarian of the Year, and awarded the Live show of the Year given by the European Festival & Fairbuyers Association. Richmond is also heavily involved with the Indian Motorcycle Company and is a member of a band called *Branscombe Richmond and the Renegade Posse Band.*

The Red Fork Native American Film Festival will be held November 17, 18, and 19 at the TCC West Campus and is Oklahoma's longest running Native American Film Festival.

Native American Film and Video Producers who would like to submit their works for the 2005 Red Fork Native American Film Festival, can contact Gerald Wofford at (918) 732-7635.

April District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Waquie: Lindsey v. McKinney: Jason
Ex-Parte
- Seymour: Mark v. Seymour: Laura
Ex-Parte
- Haney: Cheryl v. Haney: Michael
Ex-Parte
- Barnes-Harrod: Paula v. Berryhill: Alfred Dean
Ex-Parte
- Barnes-Herrod: Paula v. Berryhill: Alfred Dean
Ex-Parte
- Harley: Speedy v. Scott-Harley: Saundra
Ex-Parte

Criminal - Misdemeanor:

- MCN v. Kinnick: Carl
Ct. 1 Larceny
- MCN v. Foster: Raychel
Ct. 1 Poss of Illegal Drugs
- MCN v. McGirt: Montague
Ct. 1Poss of Illegal Drugs

Criminal - Felonies:

- MCN v. Tiger: Michael James
Ct. 1 Embezzlement, Theft, and False Accounts

Traffic:

- MCN v. Workman: Jodi
Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Shaw: Brandon
Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Parris: Dana
Disorderly Conduct

Divorce:

- Barnett: Janet v. Barnett: Anthony

Civil/Small Claims:

- Security Finance v. McSparen: Christina
Small Claims
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Edwards: Kelli
Small Claims
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. McGirt: Lillie
Small Claims
- MCN v. Davis Industries Cal .380 Semi Automatic Pistol, Serial Number AP358267
Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
- In the Matter of: Leland and Dakota Bear
Petition for Child Custody
- Empire Finance v. Marshall: Barbara
Foreign Jusgment
- Thlopthlocco Tribal Town v. Louis McGirt, et al.
Verified Complaint for TRO
- Royal Finance Corporation v. Harjo: Nettie
Small Claims
- Oliver: Evelyn v. Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo and St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company
Small Claims Petition
- Creditory Recovery Corporation v. Cochran: Chris
Foreign Judgment
- Lane: Melinda v. Leach: Eric Carlton
Paternity

Family Domestic:

- Tribal Child Support Enforcement, Ex. Rel. Jessica Ann Bracket v. Shondae Checotah
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Brigette Thomason v. Billy Sterner
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Debra Davis v. Dennis Coates
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Angela Berryhill v. Christopher Harjo
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Kym Harjo v. Christopher Harjo
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Jeralyn Prentiss v. Benjamin Hill, Jr.
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Angela Berryhill v. Clifton Hill
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Misty Selvidge v. Dale Mahan
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Michelle Gordon v. Pete McDaniel
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Sheila Nelson v. Brandy Nelson
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Deana Flangan v. Alex Proctor
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Leslie Crow v. Mark Taylor
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Sydney Grace Yahola v. Asi Yahola
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Louise King v. Robert Yargee
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Lorraine Felton v. Lloyd Beaver
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Lisa Kay Smith-Sanders v. Timothy Neal Smith
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Tina Tarpalechee v. Richard Beaver

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES
MVSKOKE PRE COLUMBIAN FOODS

By Patrick E. Moore

The Native Americans inhabiting what is now the southeastern United States lived in a woodland and open field environment where seasonal food was normally easily obtained The forests had abundant wild game, the rivers, streams and ocean were teaming with fish and seafood and they had access to many varieties of fruits and nuts. They lived on the richest farmland in North America where they produced many different cultivated crops.

Food was cooked for immediate use and also preserved for the future. The Mvskoke's favorite method for preserving food was to dry it. This method was used for both meats and vegetables.

Fruits would be squeezed into pulp, spread and formed into flat loaves approximately ½ inch thick then allowed to dry in the sun. This fruit candy when completely dry would keep for several months, sometimes until the next harvesting season. The Mvskoke dried plumbs, ripe persimmons, wild berries and grapes in this manner.

To quickly dry and preserve foods a horizontal framework of saplings or cane supported by four posts was placed over an open fire or bed of hot coals. Foods to be dried were then spread upon this drying rack to complete preservation. Pumpkin, fish and meat were placed directly on these racks, however, other foods such as corn, oysters and beans were boiled prior to being dried over hot coals.

Buffalo and deer meat was sliced into thin slabs speared on wooden spits and placed over a fire until completely smoked dry. The existing hole in the slab was later used to string the meat on cords for storage and transportation. Meat smoked and prepared in this manner could keep, depending upon the season of the year, up to six months. Smoky fires were built using green hickory wood, giving a smoked aroma and taste to the meat dried in this manner. Smoked fish, meats and oysters were completely dried before being placed in the food storehouse.

Bear meat required a different method of preparation. Thick layers of fat had to be separated from the meat before the meat could be dried. This fat was cooked in earthen pots until its oil was released this oil was then stored in large pottery containers, gourds or sometimes whole deerskins for use in the future as an ingredient in frying or as a cosmetic. Bear oil was also mixed with wild cinnamon and sassafras thereby becoming a very fragrant and colorful cosmetic.

The southeastern Mvskoke harvested and stored nutmeats. Black walnuts, hickory nuts and acorns were also important sources for cooking oil. One hundred pounds of hickory nuts would produce one gallon of oil. This milky colored oil was a favorite ingredient in the preparation of corn bread, it was also used when preparing venison because of the flavor it added to the meat.

The Creeks always thoroughly cooked meat and never ate raw meat. Their favorite meat cooking methods were broiling or boiling. They barbecued fish, small animals and large pieces of deer or buffalo. The cook would impale meat on a sharp stick that was then stuck in the ground inclined toward the fire, the meat was periodically turned to insure even and complete cooking. They often used the Sourwood tree for their wooden spits, since this wood gave the barbecued meat a special flavor.

Mvskoke were masters at cooking soups and stews, after barbecuing a meat they would make stew by adding to the meat squash, hominy, green corn, kidney beans and of course water.

Corn was the most important vegetable to the Mvskoke. Early explorers wrote in their journals that the Mvskoke had at least 40 different recipes for corn and specially noted that roasted ears of green corn was the Mvskoke's favorite.

Hominy was invented by the Mvskoke and used to prepare "Sofkee". Usually "Sofkee" was consumed cold, however it was often placed in a warm place and allowed to ferment resulting in "Sour Sofkee".

Mvskoke cooks baked loaves of bread, fried corn fritters and made boiled dumplings. They would place batter on dried corn shucks that had been softened in water, roll the shuck into a tube , up tie the ends then bake the bread contents under hot coals.

These same Mvskoke cooks also made a hard bread, where batter was formed into a doughnut shape and baked until very hard. This doughnut shaped bread was then dried in the sun until it was even harder, and strung on a cord for storage or transportation. The bread prepared in this manner was so hard it required boiling before it could be eaten.

Mvskoke would eat fresh fruit when in season, but did not like uncooked vegetables with the exception of wild onions.

In the Mvskoke household there was not a set mealtime, food was available when ever someone was hungry, except during ceremonial feasts. Food was served dipped from pottery and gourd containers on to wooden bowls carved from elm, sycamore, gum, or poplar wood. Spoons were made out of gourds, shells, bison horns or carved from wood.

Spanish explorers reported to their King and Queen in 1512 that the inhabitants of this "New World" had better foods, houses and life-styles than even the nobles in Spain. The abundance of rich foodstuffs far exceeded that available in Europe and the health and general well-being of the Mvskoke was the best they had witnessed in this "New World" and incidentally they were fierce soldiers when mistreated.

Alycia Alvarez

TULSA — Funeral services for Alycia Anna Cruz "Lesee" Alvarez were held April 7 at the Living Hope Baptist Church with Rev. James Coker and Rev. Bridge Chuckluck officiating.

Alvarez

She was born September 3, 2003, to Alexander Edward Alvarez, Sr. and Melissa Chuckluck.

Lesee attended Kids, Inc. Day Care. She enjoyed and resembled her favorite doll, Dora the Explorer.

Alycia was preceded in death by her great grandparents John Ellis 'Sundala' Scott, Burtis W. Bible and Willie Alvarez, Rose (Sitting Hawk) and Charles Haag, Annie and Bridge Chuckluck.

Survivors include: her parents; twin sister Abigail Rose Alvarez; older sister, Elexus Chuckluck of Owasso; two brothers, Isiah Chuckluck of Owasso and Alexander "AJ" Alvarez, Jr. of Bristow; maternal grandparents, Mari Jo and Raymond Chuckluck of Owasso; paternal grandparents, Carl and Alexis (Bible) Crosley of Bristow and Edward Alvarez of Carrollton, Texas; great grandmothers, Billie (Sulphur) Scott of Bristow and Cruz Frayre of Dallas, Texas.

Pallbearers include: Anthony and Jacob Cruz; Andy Butler; Barney Ingram and Rueben Frayre.

Honorary Pallbearers were: A.J. Alvarez; Christopher Crosley; Sundala Bible; Isiah Chuckluck, and Justin Smith.

Interment was at the New Jordan Baptist Church Cemetery in Salina.

Judson Deere

DEWAR — Funeral services for Reverend Judson Deere were held April 19 at the Dewar First Baptist Church with the Rev. George Doyle officiating.

Deere

Judson was born September 24, 1939 in Cromwell to Mord and Jesse Deere.

Judson was married to Nancy Marie Gouge in Okemah on September 21, 1979.

He was a veteran of the Korean Conflict.

Rev. Deere was a member of Greenleaf Baptist Church in Okemah.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Lora and Flora Deere.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; two daughters, Francis Duvall of Tahlequah and Sherrie Deere of California; two sons, Jesse of Tahlequah and David Wayne Deere of Cromwell and 10 grandchildren.

Pallbearers include: Chebon, William and Leonard Gouge; Jal Harley; Mike Smith and Chester Duvall.

Interment was held at the Gouge Family Cemetery.

Alvin Dorsey

SHAWNEE — Funeral services for Alvin Dorsey were held April 29 at the First Indian Baptist Church with Abe Jacks and Josie Mitchell officiating.

Alvin was born September 25, 1956 to William "Bill" Dorsey and Mary A. Wood.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Survivors include: his mother and stepfather; three sons, Shane Lynn of Oklahoma City, Alvin Lynn of Okemah and Sonny "Chebon" Dorsey of Shawnee; three sisters, Julia "sister" Kay Dorsey, Karen Janell Slinker of Tulsa and Teresa Ann Wood of Shawnee; seven brothers, Melvin E. and Richard, both of Tulsa, Steven Wayne, Donald Jay and William "Billy" Joe Dorsey Jr. all of Shawnee, Anthony Neal Slinker of Oklahoma City and Michael Ray Wood of Shawnee and a host of nieces and nephews.

Interment was held at the Hawkins Cemetery in Wewoka.

Patricia Richardson

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX — Funeral services for Patricia DeGarimore Richardson were held February 19 at the First United Methodist Church.

She was born on November 19, 1926 in Tulsa to Olen and Clemmie Gregory DeGarimore.

Patricia was proud of her Creek heritage.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, William E. Westbrook Jr., her parents, and one daughter, Sallie Lynn Westbrook.

Survivors include: her husband, Jean Richardson; one daughter, Susan Buck; two sons, John and Stephen Westbrook; numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Pauline Thompson

ALBUQUERQUE, NM — Funeral services for Pauline Spocogee Sice Thompson were held March 4 at the Salazar and Sons Mortuary.

Pauline was born October 17,1935 to Jacob and Minnie Spocogee.

She graduated from Gallup High School in 1953. Pauline spent one year at Oklahoma Baptist University. While in Gallup she was an Executive Director of the Gallup Indian Community Center for 13 years then moved to Albuquerque and worked for the City of Albuquerque for 16 years.

Pauline loved the Dallas Cowboys and the New York Yankees. No one ever dared to call her during the games. She loved babies and all the new babies got a Dallas outfit, nevermind the parents.

Survivors include: her husband, Paul Thompson; children, Jocelyn, Tyrone and Sidney Sice and Frederick, Danielle and Dwayne Thompson, all of Albuquerque, Michael of Gallup, New Mexico and Paula Thompson of Phoenix, Arizona; one sister Joy Spocogee of Albuquerque; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Letters

continued from page 2

children. The name of the team was the Eufaula Lookouts, and I was fortunate enough to have a son on his team. My son's name is Colton. Colton can be a shy, timid child, and all during the first game Colton cried. However, Dennis saw something in Colton and the next few weeks he encouraged Colton that he could do it repeatedly during practices. By the next game, there was no stopping him or any of the other children on the team, they knew they could do it and gave their all because of some encouraging words Dennis had told them. He told each child they could do it and what a awesome job they did!

Dennis took these children under his wing and showed each child and others respect, by listening, understanding and communicating with each child.

We as parents can have all the physical and intellectual tools of the world, but if our relationship with our children doesn't begin with respect, as Dennis has shown them, then very little in a child's life will ever be accomplished. So a special thanks to Dennis for reminding me, as a parent, the importance of gaining respect of my child.

Respectfully yours,

Stacy Roberts, Eufaula

EDITOR'S NOTE: In last month's issue of the MNN, the paragraph below contained a typing error. The staff of the MNN regrets any inconvenience this may have caused the Kelly Family. The following is the corrected text.

Rights to worship

Editor:

We also realize, along with the previous author, that there are a lot of decisions that must be made in a short amount of time. Mourning has set in, disbelief is common, and making sure everything is ready is a difficult task for the family. With better communications and open understanding on both sides of all involved, even the whole family, situations like this need not to happen. It is understood that the previous article is not indicative of the family as a whole nor does it represent the traditional or ceremonial community as a whole, nor does this present article represent all churches and or denominational interests.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Randy Colbert, Belvin Baptist Church, Okmulgee

Shop talk with Gerald

The *For the Love of the Game* officials recently returned from Denver, Colorado. The organization sponsored a boy's and girl's all star team. The players were selected from the March Madness Tournament played March 23 through 27. Board members Lucas Taylor and Victor Bear did some major cross country traveling as they ventured toward the Rocky Mountains in two vans packed with local high school basketball standouts. Needless to say, they were just a tad spent when they made it back to the friendly confines of the Sooner State. Congratulations to both boys and girls teams who finished sixth and second, respectfully.

Speaking of the March Madness Tournament, yours truly stepped in as master of ceremonies of the awards and scholarship banquet. As anyone knows, when you step in front of a lot of people looking at you, different reactions can go through your mind. Scared to death?...yes I was, but I did try to be cool as a cucumber and keep the attention on all the athletes because they truly deserved it. Although, I did present a sports poem about the tournament, just like Muhammad Ali used to do. But I kept the written prose about the game of basketball and not about the Rumble in the Jungle.

I recently did a radio interview with John Harjo of NDNSports.com on our weekly radio program. The man is a walking almanac of Native American athletes both past and present. It was good just to listen to him comment on this subject. The man knows his stuff! We did talk about maybe having him on the program more often and giving him an opportunity to enlighten myself and our listening audience on subjects, such as past and present Indian Olympic athletes. Athletes such as Ellison Myers 'Tarzan' Brown, who competed in the 1936 Berlin Games. Brown traveled to Germany with the 1936 U.S. Olympic Team as a marathon runner. Brown was certainly a qualified runner, having won the Boston marathon in 1936 and 1940. So quick was his pace in '36 that he passed the first checkpoint before the press and vehicles even got there. Even more incredible was what took place 1939, he entered two different 26-mile races within 24 hours of one another. He won both races and repeated it later in the year!

One has to wonder though, if back in 1936 during the Berlin Olympic games when Germany was totally under Nazi control, if a conspiracy of some sort affected Brown's chances at a Gold medal that year. Certainly the Berlin games are remembered for the extraordinary performance of African American Athlete Track Star Jesse Owens and his performance there. Owens won the Gold and dismissed Hitler's theory of 'Aryan White' supremacy. Brown also competed and was doing quite well, but was disqualified when a German spectator misguided him and instructed him off the official course.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The two scholarships to Haskell Indian Nations University awarded during the awards banquet was made possible by the George Tiger Family. The Tiger Family plans on contributing more scholarships at next year's tournament.

Football standout headed for Stanford University

PALO ALTO, CA — University of Stanford Cardinal football officials are chirping a little happier these days. Head Football Coach Walt Harris was all smiles with the addition of new signees to the program.

Harris is ready for the reigns on his first full season as Head Coach. He was given the opportunity after guiding the Pitt Panthers to the Fiesta Bowl in December.

One reason Harris and the Cardinal's coaching staff are happy is the new addition to their running game, Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Xxavier Carter.

Carter comes from Frisco High School in Frisco, Texas, a suburb of the Dallas area. During his senior year, he rushed for over one-thousand yards at an average of five yards per carry.

The 6'1", 190 pound running back was also looked at by other high profile colleges such as Vanderbilt, Tulane, Rice, and Army. But it was always in his heart to play in the golden state of California, especially at Stanford University.

"It had to be since middle school, like seventh grade," says Carter, "that the name (Stanford) always stood out."

Stanford University is called the Harvard of the West, due to its high educational standards. All students must meet a certain academic level in order to be admitted. But the requirements never really bothered Carter, who earned a 1280 on his SAT test while carrying a 3.2 G.P.A. at Frisco High.

Xxavier Carter signs a letter of intent with the Stanford Cardinals.

Carter's dream became a reality when Coach Wayne Moses came to the Dallas area on an official recruiting trip. "He (Moses) told me that I've been accepted to the school, which is really exciting," said Carter. "Stanford is where I've always wanted to go all along."

Carter is also a force in the classroom. Besides studying chemistry, he is a member of DECA, an association with the goal of enhancing the education of students with interests in marketing, management and entrepreneurship.

Carter is the son of Melody Missick and Russell Carter. Russell was a consensus All-American safety at SMU and later played in the NFL.

Native Thunder continues to make noise

OKMULGEE — The Native Thunder softball team continues to roll on in the local softball scene. The Creek girls softball team recently competed in the Liberty Mounds softball tournament where the eight and under contest featured eight teams, all with one thing in mind, winning it all.

The Thunder clapped all day with convincing wins over Kellyville by a score of 14 to 6, Liberty by a score of 11 to 4, and Mannford by a decision of 10 to 3.

Unfortunately, Native Thunder came up just a little short by finishing second in the all day event.

Team Native Thunder

The Thunder flexed its muscle throughout the tournament by utilizing the long ball. Going yard were steady hitters like Kaitlyn Factor, Haley VanStraten, Hanna Gouge, and Renee Lindsey.

The Thunder roster also includes: Jasmine Buckley, Christyn Barnett, Jade Stallings, Nikki Thornbrough, Mikayla Butler, Tea VanStraten, Michelle Dunn, Destiny Dunn, Cheyenne Factor, and Marissa Proctor. The coaches are Ellie Factor, Lisa Dunn, and Marva Proctor.

The Native Thunder softball team is sponsored by the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise.

Executive Office

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"Mahenwahdose" performing at art festival

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2005 Scholarship Pageant Photo Review

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Bencoma Boys headed to the Oil Bowl

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Muscogee Nation News

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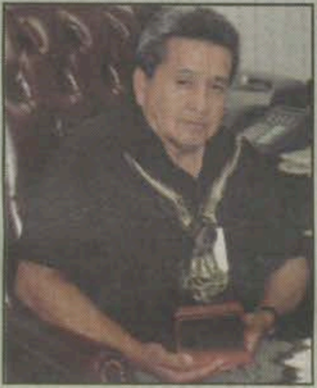
Tribal employee honored for language preservation

TULSA — When the office of Historical Preservation is mentioned, one often thinks of a prominent member of the department, a gentleman by the name of Tim Thompson.


Thompson

Thompson, who is the Cultural Advisor, was recently awarded with the "Moscelyne Larkin Cultural Achievement Award."

The Greater Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission presented Thompson with the honor at the 8th Annual Dream Keepers Awards Banquet held May 17 on the campus of OSU-Tulsa.

The award was given to Thompson on the basis of learning, sharing, fostering and perpetuating Native cultures. Culture makes Native people uniquely distinct from all others.

Thompson with was certainly deserving of the award because of his dedication toward the culture and the language of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Many people feel that the culture is the language alone.

One of the many duties Thompson has, when not preserving the language, is his dedication toward the ceremonial grounds, especially Hickory Ground Ceremonial Ground. Thompson is the Heleshayv, or medicine man of Hickory Ground.

Other Muscogee (Creek) citizens honored during the evening include the follow: Julia Tiger, Donald 'Butch' McIntosh, and Linda Alexander. Tiger was awarded the "Charles Chibitty Family Community Contributor Award," McIntosh was given the "Will Anquoe Humanitarian Award," and Alexander was honored with the "Perry Aunko Indigenous Language Preservation Award."

7

Burden crowned 2005-2006 Miss Muscogee Nation

After finishing runner-up to Victoria Mills in last year's scholarship pageant, Katie Burden used that experience to performed brilliantly in the areas of poise; personality; dress; talent; speech; and impromptu questioning on the way to being crowned the 2005-2006 Miss Muscogee Nation Princess on Friday, June 3. Leandra Thompson was this year's runner-up. Burden competed against four other candidates vying for this year's crown. She is the daughter of Steve and Joyce Burden of Weleetka. Her grandparents are Jerry and Delores Wall, the late Andrew Watashe, the late Bill and Mildred Burden, and Dorothy Burden. She is of the Turtle Clan and belongs to Hitchita Tribal Town.

(See page 15 for pageant photo review.)

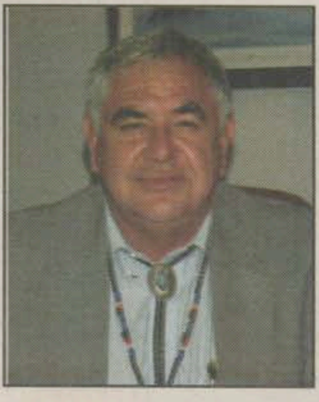
photo by Lucas Taylor

Executive Branch welcomes Flud as Chief of Staff

OKMULGEE — Michael Flud, Director of Human Development, was recently named Chief of Staff within the Executive Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"I welcome Michael Flud aboard," said Principal Chief A.D. Ellis. "He brings with him a rich background of experience in tribal government. Flud will be a valuable addition to assist this office with all work between all branches of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's government."

The position of Chief of Staff reports directly to Chief Ellis. Flud will be responsible for overseeing special projects, such as working with PSO at the Claude Cox Omniplex, developing the 40 acre industrial park, coordinating the Tulsa casino expansion with MNBE, and working with Ben Chaney on the transit project. Another important aspect of Flud's duties is coordinating public relations for the Office of the Principal Chief.



"It is a great honor that I was selected by Chief Ellis for the position of Chief of Staff," said Flud. "Muscogee Creek Nation has a lot of good things going on."

Flud will also be serving as a liaison with communities, executive branch and National Council. Basically, he will be working to keep the lines of communication open to all branches and communities within the Tribe.

He was one of the original six men selected on the Supreme Court where he served twenty-four years. Flud is also a retired school administrator and athletic director with over thirty-six years experience.

A new Director of Human Development will be nominated and sent to National Council.

Search for U.S. Marine

Editor:

I was stationed in Okinawa in 1960. While in the U.S. Marines, I was stationed with an Indian named Roger Benjamin Harjo - the two first names could be reversed.

I do not know what nation of Indians he belonged to. I'm told the name Harjo could be Creek, Navajo or Hopi. I don't think I ever knew.

Help me if you can.

William D. Hutto
2672 Springside Court
Douglasville, Georgia 30135
(770) 489-1757

Expression of thanks

Editor:

It is with the utmost gratitude that I express my thanks to the Higher Education program of the Muscogee Nation.

Thanks to their program assistance, I have completed my Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast and Electronic Media. I am graduating from the University of Oklahoma on May 13, 2005. This has always been one of my goals in life and now it is accomplished.

Special thanks goes to Jeri On-the-Hill, Chaneena Davis and Danna Minnick. You ladies were always there each and every time that I needed anything. With people working for the Nation like you all, we should always have successful and educated tribe.

A great thanks goes to my wonderful family who have gave me the love and support and always my Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

Jason Salsman, Eufaula

Great job goes out to expert workers

Editor:

I'm writing to express gratitude for a great job Asplundh Tree Expert Workers are doing. Many people don't realize this but the major ethics are Native Americans. I should know I have a husband, brother, brother-in-laws, uncle, cousins and friends that risk their lives everyday.

I just wanted to tell them thank you for their professionalism, dedication, and outstanding work ethic they do everyday. MVTO Guys!

Sincerely,

Norma Cloud, Henryetta

Citizen wishes to clarify identity

Editor:

The April issue of the Muscogee Nation News under March District Court Filings (criminal-felonies) a Kim Johnston was listed. This is not the same Kim A. Johnston that is employed with the Office of Public Gaming.

Kim Johnston, Okmulgee

Chairman expresses gratitude

Editor:

I would like to thank all those who have work on making this year's Annual Creek Festival bigger and better. Many people have worked long hours and have worked on weekends completing renovations to the Claude Cox Omniplex.

First of all, I would like to thank the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise for repairing the entertainment stage. They repaired the flooring, stairs, and handrails. They also made a concrete walkway for easier access for the performers and their equipment. Tom Harjo and his crew did an excellent job. It's good to see our tribal citizens getting an opportunity to show their skill and craftsmanship. Mike Nalley and his crew need to applauded for their efforts.

Secondly, I would like to thank Brad Fox and his Forced Account crew. All of his staff are highly trained in both carpentry and plumbing. However, Brad and his guys had no problem with rolling back their sleeves and cutting grass on the entire omniplex. Brad Fox, David Pascale, Silas Baker, Farrel Blackbear, and Rance Fogle spent many hours cutting the high grass. Rance also built a deck and roof for the secretary's office at the rodeo arena. The best thing about these guys is that they don't care if anyone knows about what they did. They see it as an opportunity to do something positive for the Creek Nation. Great job guys!

Thirdly, I would like to thank Bob Arrington, Jimmy Basquez and their entire staff. These guys did a lot of dirt for electric upgrades and for concrete to be poured for a new building. They also moved an existing building, constructed a permanent building for the Lighthorseman, and prepared the gravel for the children's carnival. Thanks Allen Harjo for allowing these guys to do the work.

Finally, I would like to thank Phil Booker and Dean Williams. I have always heard to be a successful manager or chairman, you must surround yourself with intelligent, hardworking, and trustworthy individuals. It's unbelievable how much knowledge these two individuals possess. Any project that comes up, whether it be electrical, carpentry, plumbing, or landscaping, between the two of them they always come up with the most effective solution.

The tribe is lucky to have all the men mentioned as employees. I'd also like to thank all the volunteers and coordinators for this year's Festival. I truly believe this will be our best festival ever. Mvto!

Lucas Taylor, Festival Chairman

Muscogee Nation News

Members of the following two associations:

NAJA
Native American Journalist Association

NAPP
The National Association of Photoshop Professionals

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello Friends and Fellow Citizens,

Once again hot summer weather is approaching and I hope our elders are protected from the extreme heat. I know that social services has ordered hundreds of electric fans and if you live in Indian (HUD) homes you need your air conditioning working. Speaking of elders, the new elderly nutrition center is now open and serving meals behind the Housing Authority building. Drop by for a meal. It's a very state of the art facility for our over 55 years crowd.

Our 31st Annual Creek Nation Festival starts in just two weeks. This year is destined to be our best and biggest yet. A new sprung building is being erected and a new office building on the omniplex.

The sprung building can accommodate over 200 people and can serve well in typical rainy weather. The stage has gotten a new renovation along with much improvement to the rodeo grounds. We can expect **Bob Arrington** and his crew to provide another great rodeo, probably even topping last years great event. We're looking forward to adding a new multipurpose basketball gym and fitness center this winter, depending upon receiving proper grants and other funding.

This would greatly benefit our young students and all Creek people in general. This nation is moving forward but maybe not as quickly as I would have liked, but things move very slowly in government.

One thing that I'm very disappointed in is the building of our new casino on Riverside Drive in Tulsa. The Cherokee's, Choctaw's and Osage's have opened new casinos and are reaping the dollars that will fund tribal programs for their people. Even the small tribes such as Sac & Fox, Pottawattomie, Absentee Shawnee, Kickapoo and Pawnee have new gaming facilities under construction on a new $110 million casino. A bill was sent to National Council last March to pay the architect who had been working for many months and it was tabled in the business and government committee. The architect left and went back to California. Again, in April I sent an approved loan plan of $10 million to B&G committee tabled this legislation. Are we going to have a new casino someday, I don't know what the National Council plans are. My office has done everything we can do until the council decides to resume construction or kill the entire project.

To my office this is an economic issue and not a moral issue. Gaming is a huge fast money making opportunity to fund other interest and also it will provide 1000 new jobs for our people. What ever happens in our government and in our nation. The results reflect on our leadership. We must do what is best for all people and not just a few. Even council representatives from one district must at times represent the entire nation and not only their district. As Chief I represent all people whether they agree or disagree with my decisions.

Quote of the Month: *Any time you think you have influence, try ordering around someone else's dog.*

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES
MVSKOKE PRE-COLONIAL DEER HUNTER

By Patrick E. Moore

Mvskoke hunted deer year round using various techniques depending upon the season, weather and habits of the deer.

White-tailed Deer were found throughout North America , these animals were predominate in the eastern forests and out onto the central plains. Mule Deer, however, preferred the openness of the Great Plains. Both of these animals evolved in what is now North America and have been hunted for possibly 40,000 years by the indigenous people.

The Mvskoke hunter was a superb observer and student of nature, he knew the deer was fond of fruits, nuts, certain grasses, mushrooms and the bark of several trees and shrubs. This hunter's observations of the deer habits revealed, the animal fed at dawn and again at dusk with feeding sometimes to continue into the night should there be a full moon and clear sky. The hunter knew in times of stormy weather the deer would stay in shelter. If the bad weather lasted several days the Mvskoke hunter knew when the deer finally emerged from cover to feed, that the deer guard would be down making the hunt somewhat easier.

Mvskoke knew deer traveled the same paths from one hiding place to another using thick cover and gullies. These trails would often change depending upon the season. The hunter was also aware that Bucks liked to spend the daylight hours in uphill cover with a good view of the surrounding territory. He also observed that deer need to graze often, then rest to digest their food and at times they are able to move very rapidly for short distances, but soon become exhausted when chased for an extended period of time.

The Mvskokes woodsman skills also helped in the winter when he knew deer would band together forming small herds and that they also stayed in a more confined area during heavy snows. The Mvskoke hunter used snowshoes to follow deer in the winter and dogs for the chase when there was no snow. A deer was chased until the animal became exhausted thereby making capture easy. Many times in winter when there were deep snows the Mvskoke would place a barricade across the deer customary trail to force them into deep snow where they were an easy target.

The Mvskoke knew rain and light snow made the deer less cautious and also impaired the deer senses of smell and hearing.

The late summer and early fall allowed the Mvskoke hunter to set fire to a huge circle of grass. Deer in a panic would try to escape the fire and finding escape impossible would huddle in the center where they became easy targets.

Mvskoke hunters, acting in concert with several other hunters would encircle deer while carrying a torch, herding the deer into a concentrated group for capture without setting any undergrowth on fire.

Some Mvskoke would capture a deer alive in order to have a sacred buckskin for ceremonial events.

The Mvskoke hunter often used a disguise. He would wear the head and neck of a preserved and tanned Buck, antlers intact and sometimes the entire deer skin would cover the hunter's human form. Some hunters would move the deer head by hand as they mimicked the movements of a deer, lowering the head pretending to feed and bleating until a real prey deer was close enough to shoot.

These disguises used by the Mvskoke in the eastern woodlands were so lifelike that there are written reports by early traders reporting one disguised Mvskoke hunter shooting another disguised Mvskoke in the field.

The Mvskoke also used a spring pole snare that would catch the deer leg and lift it off the ground. Early traders wrote of this capture method, however, these reports do not describe or include drawings of these snares actual mechanics and this early hunting method may be lost. There is a tribe on the northwest coast of North America, the Kwakiutl, who use a similar spring tree trap for deer and anthropologists believe the Kwakiutl trap closely resembles the Mvskoke trap.

The Mvskoke was also skilled in calling deer, using devises made from hollow branches, gourds and a blade of grass.

please see **MOORE**..., page 22

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the April 30, quarterly session.

April 30, Regular session

Absent were: **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-029, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an oil and gas lease on 40 acres of tribal trust property located in McIntosh county;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-054, authorizing the Principal Chief to develop and implement policies and procedures that demands strict adherence to title 32, chapter 1 as amended by NCA 04-025 related to fuel purchases for tribally owned and program leased and purchased vehicles;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-059, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a U.S. Government lease for real property, lease no. AG2005K001, between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs as agent for the United States of America;

• approved (20-1-0) TR 05-064, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the removal of trash and debris from a certain tract of property located in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma located adjacent to the Nations Tribal Headquarters;

voting no was: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (20-1-0) TR 05-065, authorizing the National Congress of American Indians the use of the Great Seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on tote bags for the 2005 Annual Convention;

voting no was: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-066, authorizing Duck Creek Indian Community to construct an asphalt parking lot on tribal trust land;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-067, authorizing the Principal Chief to convey necessary easements to Public Service Company of Oklahoma, Inc. and Scissortail Energy, LLC to construct the Industrial Park;

• approved (20-1-0) TR 05-068, confirming the nomination of **Roger F. Wiley** to serve as the Attorney General of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no was: **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-070, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute two temporary operating permits with American Promotional Events, Inc., for the operation of one temporary fireworks sales facility on tribal trust land to benefit the Tulsa Creek Indian Community;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-071, authorizing the Principal Chief to convey necessary easements to utility companies and to obtain necessary easements from nearby property owners for the construction of the Koweta Indian Health Facility;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-075, appropriating funds to the Division of Tribal Affairs to reclaim and clarify surface and mineral rights of properties originally used for railroad rights-of-way and other Muscogee Nation properties;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-077, appropriating funds to the Senior Methodist Organization of the Northeast District for the annual camp meeting of the United Methodist Church;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-078, amending MCNCA title 17, § 6-113.B., as amended by NCA 05-010, to allow the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise to sue and be sued pursuant to board resolution;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-079, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the District Court for Jury, Court Reporter, and Conflict Representation for fiscal year 2005;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-080, authorizing the expenditure of BIA "assistance funds" awarded to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for Tribal Facilities Operations and Maintenance Assistance Project;

• approved (16-2-3) NCA 05-082, authorizing a special appropriation to the Many Springs Baptist Church, Holdenville, OK for the purchase of a van;

voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

abstain were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee and **Quiett**, Tulsa;

representative **Wind** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (16-4-0) NCA 05-083, creating, and appropriating funds for, the Office of Internal Audit and Compliance within the Executive Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and codifying said law in title 37 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation code annotated;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Williams**, Okmulgee and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Parish** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (12-7-1) NCA 05-084, requiring oversight by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Construction Engineer on all construction or renovations occurring on Muscogee (Creek) Nation property;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa and **Hufft**, Tulsa;

abstain was: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 05-085, creating Language Revitalization and establishing the Mvskoke Language Program and repealing NCA 03-220;

voting no was: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **S. Johnson** was excused

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 05-086, appropriating partial funds to enable a tribal citizen to travel from Oklahoma City, Ok to Lima, Peru for the purpose of missionary work (discipling, evangelizing and teaching) to Quechua women in the mountains of Peru;

voting no was: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Wind** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (19-0-0) NCA 05-087, authorizing a special appropriation for the festival committee;

representative **Watson** was excused;

• approved as amended (19-0-0) NCA 05-088, authorizing a special appropriation to an account held in the name of the Business Enterprise for collateral funds to be used for a line of credit;

• approved (18-1-0) NCA 05-089, authorizing special appropriation to **Alayna Betche** to attend a discipleship program;

voting no was: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 05-090, authorizing a special appropriation to Sand Creek Baptist Church, Wetumka, OK., for the renovation and repairs to two (2) existing restrooms;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 05-091, authorizing a special appropriation to the Tallahassee (Wvkokaye) Ceremonial Ground for the construction of bathroom facilities;

representative **Wind** was excused;

• approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-093, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Office of the National Council/Legislative Branch for the remainder of fiscal year 2005;

• approved (18-0-0) NCA 05-094, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to GSA/Facilities for the remainder of fiscal year 2005 for renovations to tribal buildings;

• killed (18-0-0) NCA 05-095, authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Lighthorse Administration fiscal year 2005 budget;

representative K. Johnson was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (15-2-0) NCA 05-096, authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce and **Gillespie**, Wagoner.

Correction:

Representative Roger Barnett, Creek District, was in attendance on February 17 Extra-ordinary session, but was excused.

New York community helps

(As submitted by American Indian Community House-Dawn Gingold)

NEW YORK — Located in New York City , the American Indian Community House (AICH) is a 36 year old organization serving one of the largest urban Native population in the United States.

In addition to being a social service agency with job training and health programs, it provides an Art Gallery and a Theater. The theater department serves as a resource for Native performers and those looking to cast them. AICH keeps a database of Native performers — actors, singers, dancers, musicians, comics, and performance artists.

AMERINDA (American Indians in the Arts), another Native organization in New York City, also keeps an extensive database. The Non-Traditional Casting Project in NYC is a third source for Native actors. AICH hosts an annual month of performances called the Indian Summer series. This program, as well as an annual showcase for agents is funded by the New York State Council on the Arts. In addition, from time to time Native performers are booked into the Circle Theater and Art Gallery. Stories are told, poems are read, plays and screenplays are read, and workshops are given in acting, voice overs, and commercials. For the most part, these activities are the result of volunteers providing their time and expertise.

In collaboration with the Times Square Playwrights, AICH hosts the Second Sunday series, bringing a new developing play or screenplay to the Circle for a full length reading each month.

Again, this program is the result of a community member volunteering. Other collaborations have been with City Lore for language development with the New York City American Indian community, as well as other ethnic theater groups. AICH has also worked with ABC on its Diversity Showcase.

Tulsa Community Center News

TULSA — Sam Alexander and Paula Willits met in a runoff for Tulsa District, Seat E. The pair had the highest vote totals in the April primary election, and a winner was decided on May 21, with the results becoming official on May 27 after 5 p.m. The winner was officially announced as Paula Willits who had 51.09 percent of the votes tallied.

Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center (TCIC) received word from the Principal Chief's office that its FY 2005 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) request was approved. TCIC will receive $4,700 for property improvement projects.

The National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will consider TR-070, which proposes a lease between TCIC and American Promotional Events, Inc. The lease will allow a fireworks stand to be run by TNT, at 81st and Riverside from June 15 through July 5.

Indian Culture Center Planned

TULSA — Plans are under way to build the highly anticipated American Indian Culture Center, according to City of Tulsa officials, and Native American communities from all over Oklahoma, as well as the United States, will benefit.

The City has identified infrastructure improvements to be funded with the $2 million available from Vision 2025. Any significant expenditure of funds remains subject to the overall project feasibility.

National Indian Monument and Institute signed a lease in Jan. 2005, for 39 acres of land with the Tulsa's River Parks Authority, for 99 years at $1 per year. This land is located at 71st Street and Elwood on the west bank of the Arkansas River, next to Turkey Mountain. The City of Tulsa is proceeding with negotiations for required design work.

Water, sewer lines and a road will be built for the development of this center on the west bank of the Arkansas River, allowing funds raised by the American Indian Cultural Center through foundations and federal grants to create a museum, cultural center, art gallery, restaurants, stomp grounds and Native American visitor center. This center project will highlight the culture of the Native Americans.

Addressing native people's needs at grassroots Level

submitted by Seva Foundation

Seva's Native American Funding Programs support local grassroots partnerships with Native American Peoples who have devised their own solutions to spiritual and cultural renewal, health and wellness, environmental restoration, sustainable agriculture and community economic development, education and treaty rights protection.

In recognition and support of self determination, Seva Foundation assists Native Communities in the US through financial assistance and other support for rural and urban Native Communities, through continuing education of its board and staff, and through inclusion of Native Peoples in the structures of the foundation.

NAPAG (Native American Program Action Group) was first initiated by the Seva Foundation Board of Directors at the Annual Board meeting 1980. The Seva Foundation believes in the dignity and interconnectedness of all Mother Earth's residents and honors the ability of Peoples to advise their own solutions to problems and solve them - if they have the resources to do it.

NAPAG is comprised of members of the Seva Family who wish to proactively participate from the board, advisory Board, Staff and local Native American

Granting Procedures Overview

Granting is done quarterly throughout the fiscal year in conjunction with NAPAG and the Program's Director.

The Small Grants work provides small amounts of funding to programs that may otherwise be overlooked by larger foundations.

$50,000.00 a year is granted throughout urban and rural Indian Communities in the United States. Grants range in the amount from $500 - $5000, the average grant being $2,500.

Application Criteria

Must be a Native American led organization whose particular project/mission fits any of the areas mentioned in our mission.

Although we believe strongly in solidarity amongst all peoples, in an effort to recognize and support self-reliance and self-determination, we feel that it is important to prioritize our limited resources to Native Initiated Projects.

Requesting Procedure:

- Start by downloading (in Word or Adobe Acrobat format) or requesting (from the office listed below) the proposal cover sheet.
- In your Proposal Narrative, please describe your organization's history, including the Native community(ies) you serve and outline the issues that your project/organization is addressing. Describe the project's goals, objectives, strategies, planned evaluation of its success, and your projects budget listing the amount requested from the Small Grants Fund.
- Granting is done quarterly throughout the year. In cases where funding is needed by a specific date, such as for an event, please allow at least 8 weeks for the review and decision.
- Please check to make sure that all the information requested is included in your final package. There is a check list provided in Section D of the cover sheet for this purpose.
- Maximum two-page Letter of Inquiry is recommended if you are unclear whether your program/organization fits our funding priorities.
- If you have any questions, please call the Program Assistant, Cherie LaPointe.
- You may fax or email the proposal if pressed for time and then mail the originals.

Seva Foundation Attn: Cherie LaPointe/P.O. Box 225 Winnebago, NE 68071; UPS/FedEx: Seva Foundation, Attn: Cherie LaPointe c/o HCI Headquarters #1 Mission Road/ Winnebago, NE 68071; call at (402) 878-2392 or fax at (402) 878-2092; or email at clapointe@seva.org.

Tell Us About Your Events

Please keep us informed of your community activities and events so that we may help you get the word out.

Contact us at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 or by phone at (918) 732-7637. Feel free to fax us as well by using our fax number at (918) 758-0824.

Fifth Annual Challenge Bowl Winners

OKMULGEE — A total of four hundred and sixty participants and volunteers attended the Fifth Annual Muscogee Nation Challenge Bowl games held over a three week period in the Mound Building on the capitol grounds. Schools from all over Creek Nation boundaries participated. One community, Oklahoma City Muscogee Indian Community sent a team for the first time. The games are opened to any Creek community, Creek church, ceremonial grounds and all JOM students within the Creek Nation service area. Inquiries about the games have come from as far away as California, Colorado, and Texas.

1st Place Elementary, Hanna Blue Dragons

1st Place Middle School, Hanna Dragons

1st Place High School, Glenpool Tstvnke Em'meketv

The following is a list of winners: Elementary, 1st place - Hanna Blue Dragons, 2nd place - Glenpool Tvstvnvke Em'meketv, 3rd place - Sapulpa Huhl buh dah and Sportsmanship, Wilson Katcv Micco; Middle school, 1st place - Hanna Dragons, 2nd place, Wilson Katcha Este Cate, 3rd place - Sapulpa No Kose and Sportsmanship, Wilson Katcha Este Cate; and High School, 1st place - Glenpool Tvstvnvke Em'meketv, 2nd place - Wilson Tafv Luste, 3rd place - Morris Lvm'hes and Sportsmanship, Eufaula Ekv Cvto.

Creek Citizen receives Ph.D.

WILLIAMSBURG, V.A. — On May 15, Margaret McKane Mauldin was awarded the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from the College of William and Mary.

The degree recognized Mauldin's many contributions to documenting the Creek language, including a dictionary (A Dictionary of Creek/ Muscogee, Univ. of Nebraska Press, 2000), traditional folklore (Totkv Mocvse/New Fire, Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 2004) and hymns (Vkvsamet Yvhikeyvres/Believing Let Us Sing, 1994).

Mauldin

Mauldin has taught Creek Language for ten years at the University of Oklahoma and has served as a board member of Indigenous Language Institute and intertribal Wordpath Society. She has also taught at the Oklahoma Native American Language Development Institute and served as an adviser to the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

In her acceptance speech, Mauldin described her entrance into language preservation: "I kept wondering why 'they' weren't doing anything about [the loss of the language] and then I thought, 'Why am I not doing anything about it?" Her enthusiasm for Creek has spread to her sister Juanita McGirt, who has collaborated on several translation projects and to her daughter Gloria McCarty, who teaches with Mauldin in Norman. She is currently at work translating a large collection of folktales and oral history gathered in the 1930's.

Mauldin is the daughter of the late Bill and Lucy McKane. She lives on her grandmother's allotment in Okemah.

Its that time again our MNN is seeking submissions from Muscogee senior high and college graduates for its annual graduates' section. Deadline for submissions is June 28. Mail Submissions to P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok 74447 or email to: mbible@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Electronically mailed submissions must be saved as a Word Perfect document. For any questions contact the Communications dept. at (918) 732-7639 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7639.

Place Photo Here

2005 Seniors and College Graduates

Name: ____________

Roll # or SSN #: ____________

School: ____________

Clan: ____________

Tribal Town: ____________

Parents: ____________

Grandparents: ____________

Awards: ____________

Activities: ____________

Plans: ____________

Births

Keaton Lee Barnett

OKLAHOMA CITY — Keaton Lee Barnett was born on April 18 at the Deaconess Hospital.

He is the son of Allison and Jackson Barnett, Jr.

He weighed seven pounds and 13 ounces.

Barnett is the grandson of Jackson Barnett, Creek Nation Senior Services Manager.

Cyann Powell

OKMULGEE — Cyann Bessie Powell was born April 14 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Valerie Taryole and Vernon Powell, Sr.

She weighed 8 lbs. and was 19 inches in length.

Her maternal grandparents are Kenneth and Darlene Taryole of Okmulgee. Cyann's great-grandparents are Sophia and the late Van Taryole of Okemah and the late John and Nancy Frank of Cromwell.

Powell

Paternal grandparents are Pam Johnson of Tulsa and Rick and Lisa Powell of Okmulgee.

Navaeh Rae Sutton

OKMULGEE — Navaeh Rae Sutton was born on April 24 to Vanessa Grayson and Matt Sutton.

Navaeh was 7 lbs. and 4 ounces and was 19 inches.

Maternal grandparents are Josephine Walton of Muskogee, Nolan Grayson and Amanda Griffith, both of Okmulgee. Her great-grandparents are Susanna Grayson, Rosie and Leonard Berryhill, all of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are Bill and Jeannie Sutton, both of Okmulgee. Her great-grandparents are Albert and Betty Blankenship, both of Okmulgee and Hazel Sutton of Stillwater.

Sutton

Birthday

Harley celebrates 14th Birthday

OKMULGEE — Bethany Rochelle Harley just celebrated her 14th birthday on May 29.

Her parents are Lizzie and Alfred Harley.

Maternal grandparents are Pauline Proctor of Okmulgee and Sam Proctor of Dustin.

Her paternal grandparents are Alfred Harley Sr. and Rosa Lee Harley, both of Wilburton.

Jacobs celebrates 2nd birthday

OKMULGEE — Jalen Ty Jacobs celebrated his 2nd birthday with a Kansas Jayhawks basketball theme on April 9th with friends and family.

He is the son of B.J. and Monica Hicks Jacobs of Okemah.

His maternal grandparents are Johnie and Daria Hicks of Okmulgee.

Jalen's paternal grandmother is the late Linna Artussee and great-grandmother is Sissy Lewis of Hanna.

He has one sister, Emily, age 6.

Jacobs

Leete celebrates with Dora the Explorer theme

MESQUITE, N.V. — Andrea Grace Leete celebrated her 2nd birthday on May 15. She celebrated with family and friends at her home with a Dora the Explorer theme.

Andrea is the daughter of Robert and Carri Leete.

Andrea's maternal grandparents are Russell and Patricia Criner, both of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents, William and Leslee Montgomery and John Leete.

Her maternal great great-grandmother is the late Nada Anderson Criner.

Leete

She has one older sister, Ashlynn.

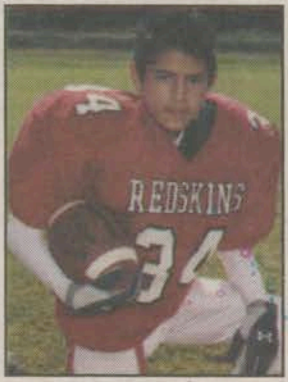
Scarberry celebrates 14th Birthday

KEIFER — Andrew David Scarberry celebrated his 14th birthday with his family.

Andrew plays football for the McLoud Redskins and weight lifts.

He is the son of Susan Alexander-Sulphur and Michael 'Hully' Sulphur.

His maternal grandparents are David 'Duke" Alexander and Paulette Alexander, both of Hartsville, Tennessee.



Scarberry

Maternal great-grandparents are Linda Alexander of Norman and Andrew Alexander of Seminole.

Society

Rolland Graduates in May

TULSA — Geoffrey Grant Rolland graduated May 9 with a Masters Degree in Health Care Administration from Oklahoma State University.

Geoff received his Bachelor of Science, specializing in Organismic Biology Studies from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

Geoff is the son of Judy Haumpy, Creek Nation Self-Governance Coordinator and the late Al Rolland, Jr. His paternal grandparents are the late Albert and Nancy (Watashe) Rolland, of Sapulpa.

He resides in Tulsa with his wife, Tammie who is an Attorney-At-Law for the State Court of Civil Appeals, and their two sons, Brendan who is seven years old and Blake who is sixteen.

Geoffrey's son Brendan was chosen as Student of the Month for May from Tulsa Public School Indian Education. Brendan attends Mac Arthur Elementary School.

Glenpool Tvstvnvke Singers perform

GLENPOOL — Members of the Glenpool Tvstvnvke singers performed at Glenpool Elementary.

The group sang Muscogee Creek hymns and told Creek legends.

The group has performed in Washington, D.C., Keifer Schools, Tulsa County Library, National JOM Conference and the Trail of Tears Conference this school year. Kristi Collington, director, plans to keep the group going next school year.

Announcements

Wolf receives awards in Glenpool

GLENPOOL — Veronica Wolf, a senior, was awarded the Oasis Award from United States Congressman John Sullivan. The scholarship is worth $1,000.

Wolf was also selected for the Student Achievement Award and Student of Excellence from American Indian Chamber of Commerce along with Trenton Rabbit.

The students were selected by Indian Education Director, Kristi Collington, and received a savings bond, certificate and got to attend a luncheon at the Southern Hills Hilton Hotel.

Wolf

Paper Bingo, A last & memorable night

By Josh Slane

MUSKOGEE — The Muskogee Casino hosted its last night of paper bingo on Saturday, April 30. The Casino wanted the final night to be memorable, and took steps to ensure as much. The normal games were worth $4,000 to a single winner (split between multiple winners) and for one game a new car was given away. That alone should've been enough to close out the Casino in memorable fashion, but that was not all the night held in store.

Pictured (left to right) Farrell Kaaihue and Chief Ellis

The first event was the Casino honoring the employees who had served it, and the people of the community, for ten years or more. These were Lance Bohanon, Marlon Charles, Jared Hinds, Farrell Kaaihue, Rebecca LeClair, Shirley McBride, Richmond Mitchell, Pat Sloan, Dana Smith, Rhonda Thompson, Ernie Tiger, Michael Tiger, and Michael Wimmer. Then there were the side games.

One of the side games was called Spin to Win in which the winner could either take a certain amount of money or spin a wheel and get a random amount of money (like something you would see on "The Price is Right"). Well the game ended up with a single winner who went up to the stage and was given her choice, either $1,000 or three spins on the wheel. At the urging of the crowd she took the three spins, and after two spins, one of which was so close to the jack pot she had $700 and only one spin remaining. She put her all into it and spun it hard, and as it slowed the entire hall held it's breath. And perhaps luck was with her, or maybe something or someone more wanted that night to be especially memorable but the last spin ever on the Spin to Win wheel was the $1500 jackpot. The lucky lady walked away with $2200.

However, whatever influenced her spin was not yet finished for the night, there was to be another appearance. This time during the game known as Pick a Pet. This game had three winners, each of whom got to choose a stuffed animal off of the wall (which had many stuffed animals on it). Each animal had an envelope, each of which promised an unknown amount of money, ranging from $250 to $2500.

The three winners, all of whom were female (this was definitely a lady's night) chose their animals with care. The manager then offered to buy their pets from them for $500. The first lady to arrive to the Pick a Pet wall agreed, sold her pet (which then went to a random member of the audience, who also happened to be female) and returned to her seat. The other two contestants refused to sell. Then the manager upped it to $750. The third lady to arrive chose to take the money and return to her seat, and so her pet was given to another random member of the audience, also female. It was then time to open the envelopes.

The lady who had the first lady's pet opened first, and found $500 (the same amount for which the pet had been given up). Next up was the lady who received the third lady's pet. She opened the envelope to $750, the same amount for which the third animal was given up.

Then came time for the lady who refused to part with her pet. As the manager opened her envelope whatever force had effected the third and last spin of the wheel again played it's part, and the envelope contained the $2500, the maximum that Pick a Pet gave.

Wether a higher power intervened, or the random factors simply aligned is not known for certain, and likely never will be. What is known for certain however is that the Muskogee Casino's bingo hall had a very memorable closing night.

Tulsa Casino Promotions

Win a new home.

Come by each Thursday at 7:00 p.m. for your shot at $4,000 in home makeover drawings and receive two free entries into The American Dream Giveaway. Then mark your calender for July 28, as one lucky person will win a fabulous new house in the South Tulsa area, two new vehicles, and $10,000 in cash. Swipe your card daily for one free entry. Plus, earn additional entries with jackpots on VGT, Cadillac Jack, or Rocket games. See Players Club for complete details.

Cash for the Cup!

Start your engines and race on into Creek Nation Casino for the excitement of NASCAR racing! Your shot at over $100,000 in cash and prizes, including two Tony Steward edition Monte Carlos! Play against Chris Plank from the KTBZ 1430 AM for weekly cash prizes, a NASCAR Special Edition Car and a trip to the 2006 Daytona 500. Who else is going to reward you for your excellent NASCAR knowledge? Be sure to visit the Player's Club each week starting February 20. Now through November 20.

Win Free Pizza for a Year!

That's right, FREE pizza for a year! Register to win each time you make a pizza purchase at our Jackpot Cafe during the month of June. On July 1 we will draw five lucky winners to receive a free Bonici Brother's Pizza of their choice for an entire year!

Join Us for a Groovy Time

Tuesdays, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Come out every Tuesday for our KQLL 70s Happy Hour! Stop by the Players Club to get your coupon for your choice of items for just 70 cents: Onion Rings, French Fries, Corn Dogs, or Pop Rocks.

Creek Nation's Licensed Gaming Facilities

Creek Nation Casino-Tulsa
1616 East 81st Street
Tulsa, OK 74136
(918) 299-8518, telephone
(918) 299-0345, fax

Creek Nation Casino-Okmulgee
1601 North Wood Drive
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-8400, telephone
(918) 759-7672, fax

Creek Nation Casino-Muscogee
3420 West Peak Boulevard
Muskogee, OK 74401
(918) 683-1825, telephone
(918) 687-7318, fax

Bristow Indian Community Bingo
121 West Lincoln
Bristow, OK 74010
(918) 367-9168, telephone
(918) 367-9373, fax

Checotah Indian Community Bingo
830 North Broadway
Checotah, OK 74426
(918) 473-5200, telephone
(918) 473-5899, fax

Duck Creek Casino
10085 Ferguson Road
Beggs, OK 74421
(918) 267-3468, telephone
(918) 267-3465, fax

Eufaula Indian Community Bingo
806 West Forest
Eufaula, OK 74432
(918) 689-9191, telephone
(918) 689-9192, fax

Trying to be someone else

Cofe tat hocefkepat omekv, pokkechcetv fulhoyan este hecet likvtes. Mv cofe likat tempusan, este honvnwv momit empvlse tepekit etempunahiyan, cofit pohit likvtes. Momen hofonof, este vtotkv momit pokkechcv heran yacvkhoyet omvtes, enhvtese hakvhe oh'fvttcv; mvn momekv, mv aculvkit este moman hopoyake omvtes, momem okakat "estimvt pokkechcv heart aren omat, hokte hvmken en wikvkvres" makakof, este huvmket pokkechcetv mvnvtske mahet aren hecakvtes.

Pokkechcetv hoyahnof, mv este pokkechcvtv estimvt omat apohaken, hocefv, momen estvmvn liket omat monahoyvtes. Mv acolvkit okakat, "este moman hopoye-unke, hiyomat eshecekv, hoktehvmken en wikvkvres," makakan Cofit pohekv vkerricit likevtes.

Mv nettv renhvyatkosan, Cofit en hesse, culvn eremorvtes. Culvt rvkko sulken ocetohn mvn kerrit omit emayit omvtes. Cofit okat, "Rvkkon vmpvlit skvren cuyacit cem vlvkit omis," kicof, en hessit vkvsamusit rvkko humken en palvtes.

Cofit okat, "hokte hvmken esten – wihokvranet owvnken, mv hokten cvyacit omit mv estvlke en cokon ayetvn komit aret omis," makit en hessen emonayof, culvt este – hecepetv yacat mau ayetv yacen, hokkolvt emetetakavtes.

Cofit suh'tehkvn vtehet omes, escefketvn ocekot omin, oklvfonvn vteloh'yit escefketvn

Eshayah'kit, ahoyvtes. Momen ahoyet welakof, Cofit okat, "este hvtke punvkv kerrvyet omes," makit, nak sulken kerret omvcokit, nak momvken onayen, ahoyet coko kohmakvte mvn restemohrhoyvtes.

Cok-ofvn tvkkvpokit etemponahoyit omes, mv pokkeche fulhoyvte opunvyeceh poyekon tvkkvpokvtes.

Momen coko poricvlketateyefulhoktvn makakof, "hompetv etetakvcokekv , "supper' pun – homipit omvks," kihocen okhompetvn erahvpohokof, Cofe, este hvtke punayvt okat, "supper as wiyvks-cah, "makit, nak homepetvt omvcoks komit likvtes.

Hompetv hoyanof, coko pucasit okat, "este hvmkit pokkechcetv manvtsket aret omvnken, momen estvmvn liket omat pomonahoyvnken, vpvkse tat mvn vyvranit omis," makof, hoktvke mvnettvlke okakat, " laksetoks, mv pokechcv motmvteke turwv rakrahkekohn. O mvnkan-oks," kicaken, mvn soh'kerret ok-hoyan, Cofe tat awicecekoh munket, "vn tat este laksv toh'koht omis, este hvtkw punkv kerrvyet omis,' maken omes, mvn soh'kerrap poyekah, "hiyomen vhoyepatskan heres, coh'yomochkvkekoh munken," kihohcen, rvthoyet welakof, Cofit capah'ket ont omit, este hvtke punakvn sopunayit, "I'll kill'em. I'll kill'em..don't kill'emhlaf, full kill, full kill" m-a-aken rvthoyvtes, mahokvntsce.

Trying to be someone else

One day the rabbit was watching a ball game. As he sat there watching the game, he overheard an elderly couple talking about the prospects of acquiring a son-in-law. He heard them say that among his qualifications of being a good worker he must also be a good ball player. There just happened to have such a player that day and when the game was over, the couple were wondering who that player was. The rabbit heard them say just as soon as we find out who it was, we'll let him marry one of our daughters." When rabbit heard this, a scheme immediately popped into his little brain. The next day, Rabbit went to his friend's house, the Fox, Rabbit wanted to borrow a horse because the people he wanted to see lived a long way from there. The Fox let the Rabbit borrow one of his horses. Rabbit had on a pair of boots but no spurs, so they made a pair of spurs out of sandburs. Rabbit told Fox the purpose of this trip was to visit a man and his wife who were going to give away one of their daughters in marriage. Fox wanted to see this, so he decided to accompany his friend. On the way there, Rabbit began bragging about himself. He told his friend that one of his great accomplishments was his ability to talk the white man's language. They finally reached their destination late in the day. They sat around and talked, but there was no mention of the ball game and Rabbit didn't want to be the one to mention it. Presently, the old man invited them to stay and eat "supper" before going home. As soon as everyone got seated around the table, Rabbit pulled a boner. I guess all this time, the conversation had been in the Creek language but when the man invited them to eat "supper" he had used the white man's word for "supper" so when they were all seated, Rabbit said "Now pass the supper over here and I'll have a try at it." For someone that had bragged about knowing the white man's language, this seemed strange; anyway, the subject finally got around to the ball game. This is what Rabbit had been waiting for. He said "I'm the one that you thought was a good ball player. I'm the one that played good. That's the reason I came here, I wanted you all to know that I am that man" Meanwhile, the young women exclaimed, He's lying. The good player that we saw that day didn't have eyes that big." All this time Rabbit was saying, "really, really it was me, I am that man. I can talk the White man's language, I can do this and that." But all his whining was in vain. He had been found out. The old man told his two visitors that they had better leave because it would soon be dark. Rabbit was mad, really mad. He began to use the white man's language, "I'll kill 'em, I'll kill'em. Not half kill, full kill, full kill" That's how the Rabbit lost out by trying to be someone else.

Lord's Prayer

Pvr-ke Hvl-we lv-kets-kvt,
Ce-ho-cef-kvt vcv-ke-kvs
Cem-oh-me-ke-tvt, vlv ke-kvs,
Ma-mv Hvl-we nv-ke ko-mets-ke
Mo-mvt etv-po-met yv-mv ekv-nvn
Oh-mo-me-kvs; Net-tv-v-rvh-kv
Tvk-la-ken mo-cv net-tvn po-mvs:
Wa-kvs, vhue-ra-ce-yvt
Es-em-wa-kv-ke-yvt etv-po-men;
Nv-ke po-nv-or-ke-pue-ce tv-ye
Es-ker-re-tv se-po-hvh-yets-kvs,
Mo-maes, hol-wv-kvn
Vse-pos-sa-cvs: Oh-mek-ke-tvt,
Yek-ce-tvt: Mo-men rvk-ke tvt
Ce-nv-ke e-mon-kvt-o-me-kv.
Amen

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory. For ever and ever. Amen

Cesvs Vcvnokeces

Cesvs vcvnokeces cokv-rvkkot cv kices.
Hopuetvkeenvket's Yekecvkekis, ent yekes.
Cesvs vm elvtet os, En cuko vn haukvren,
Holwvyeckvn vlsecen, Mestuceteceyvres.
Cv yekceko estomis, Vc nokece monkvts,
Hvlwwn v vfvnnket, Vc vhecicemonkvts.
Vcvnokeces.
Vcvnokeces.
Vcvnokeces.
Nvkcokcvtcv kices.

Jesus Loves me

Jesus loves, this I know.
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong.
They are weak but he is strong
Jesus loves me! He who died.
Heavens gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in.
Though I am weak and ill, from his shining throne,
he comes to watch me where I'll be.
Jesus loves me.
Jesus loves me.
Jesus loves me.
The Bible tells me so.

Creek artists wanted

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation seeks Creek artists of all mediums to submit resumes and curriculum vitae to establish a comprehensive vendor list for present and future tribal projects. The various types of art will be used to facilitate the cultural expansion and renewal of the tribal complex and other Muscogee (Creek) Nation facilities. In addition to the submission of resumes/vitae, each artist must submit a copy of his/her citizenship card. Send to: Muscogee Nation, P.O. Box 652, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447.

For more information, contact Mvskoke@aol.com or call at (918) 758-1400 or fax to (918) 758-1413.

Southern Plains Indian Museum

ANADARKO — The Southern Plains Indian Museum administered by the Indian Arts and Crafts Board of the U.S. Department of the Interior, announces the opening of a promotional exhibition, Jon Tiger Illustrations on Sunday, May 22. The illustrations will be on view through June 30. Viewing hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Jon Tiger, an award winning and collected Native American Artist is a member of the Muscogee Nation, Raccoon Clan of the Red Town of Eufaula-Canadian Tribal Town. His work is based on Native History and is inclusive of Tribes that are represented in his immediate family, including: Creek, Kiowa, Wichita, Cheyenne-Arapaho, Choctaw, Ho-chunk, Chickasaw, and Cherokee. Many of his pieces are inspired by the Mound Builder era.

For more information, contact the Southern Plains Indian Museum at (405) 247-6221.

Public Hearing

OKMULGEE — A public hearing is scheduled for the Child Care Development Fund which is administered by the Office of Child Care. The hearing will begin at 6 p.m. on June 9 at the office of Child Care located in the Okmulgee Child Care and Development Center at the Tribal Complex. The Child Development Fund is a program that provides assistance for the income eligible tribal citizens toward their monthly child care obligations.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services

OKMULGEE — The Realty Department would like to advertise the upcoming meeting with Oklahoma Indian Legal Services.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will be at the Realty Department on June 23, starting at 10 a.m. Anyone wanting to meet with a representative, call (918) 732-7713 and schedule an appointment.

Bruner Reunion

LAMAR — On July 1, the Bruner family will have a weiner roast, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Middle Creek No. 1 Baptist Church. Bring your family photos. They will also be honoring veterans.

On July 2, the annual reunion will start at 10 a.m. at the Church. Bring a covered dish and garage sale items. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Joyce or Naomi Bear at (405) 645-2241 or Abbie Larney at (405) 379-8187.

Williams family reunion

WELEETKA—The Williams Family Reunion will be held July 16, at the Weleetka Indian Community Center starting at 10 a.m. Descendants of Synthe Williams and Williumpka are invited to attend.

Anyone attending is asked to bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Sylvia Fish at (405) 786-2556 or Dana King at (405) 786-9219.

Gathering of California Creeks

LOS ANGELES, C.A. — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association is hosting a "Gathering of California Creek Indians" on July 23. Chief Ellis will be the honored guest.

For more information, call Eli Grayson at (310) 487-7706 or e-mail CMCA@comcast.net.

A reminder to all Creek citizens living in California to update their address to the Muscogee Nation Citizenship Office at (800) 482-1979. This is an election year.

Southern California Indian Center's 37th Pow Wow

POMONA, C.A. — The Southern California Indian Center will be holding its 37th annual Pow Wow July 29 through 31 at the Fairplex.

For more information, call (714) 962-6673 or visit their website at www.indiancenter.org.

Haskell Indian University 1970-1979 Reunion

LAWRENCE, K.S. — The 1970-79 Reunion Committee will host a big celebration during Haskell Indian Nation University's Homecoming, October 21 through 23.

They are looking for former Haskell Indian Junior College graduates, students, varsity athletes from 1970's including coaches and managers, cheerleaders, royalties, etc. Faculty, staff, alumni and friends are welcome to attend.

Register now, on-line at www.haskell.edu/haskell/alumni or you may contact Gloria Graves, Committee President at (785) 749-8470. Additional information will be sent to those who register. Updated information will be posted on the website.

American Indian Film Festival seeks films

SAN FRANCISCO, C.A. — The American Indian Film Festival is entering into it's third decade of life this year.

Founded in 1975, the American Indian Film Festival is the oldest and most prestigious festival of its kind in the world. It is a unique and genuinely a Native American media presentation, founded and produced by American Indian people. It shows documentaries and feature films that come from the heart of Indian Country, and supports the work of current and new, emerging Native American Filmmakers.

It is currently seeking film and video entries for the 30th annual American Film Festival.

At the Film Festival 2004, AIFI premiered and/or screened 67 film and video works from American and Canadian filmmakers. The annual film festival draws an audience of nearly 5,000.

The 2005 American Indian Film Festival will be presented November 5 through 12. Films to be entered should be by or about American Indian or Canada First Nations people produced during the years 2004 or 2005.

The major categories for competition are: Documentary Feature, Documentary Short, Feature Film, Live Short Subject, Music Video, Animated Short Subject, Public Service and Industrial. All entries should be accompanied by promotional materials, including production credits, publicity stills, as well as a typewritten narrative description not to exceed 250 words. Entrants are responsible for all shipping costs to and from the AIFI's San Francisco office.

A film jury, designated by the American Indian Film Institute will screen entries and issue recommendations for the final program and award nominations. During the week of September 19, entrants will be notified of their selection to the 2005 American Indian Film Festival and Video Exposition.

The American Indian Motion Picture Awards recognizing outstanding Indian cinematic accomplishments, will be presented the evening of November 12 at the Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon Street. Each entry must include: Completed entry form; VHS Screening cassette; Signed Regulations Agreement Form and Entry Fee of $50. Entry fee payable: American Indian Film Institute. Entry deadline is August 5.

For more information, call (415) 554-0525.

May was Trauma Awareness Month

OKLAHOMA CITY — Trauma is an injury caused by external force or violence and may range from minor to severe. It is the nation's most expensive disease process, costing approximately $180 billion annually. Oklahoma Statistics reflect the national average.

For more information please contact the OSDH Trauma Health Division, Director Patrice Greenawalt, MS, RN at (405) 271-4027.

Haskell Alumni Association accepting members

LAWRENCE, K.S. — The Haskell Alumni Association is accepting new members. They need to know your name, address, telephone number, the dates you were enrolled and the name you used while there. A membership fee of $10 covers from November 1, 2004 to October 31, 2005.

Send the information and payment to: Lou Lasley, 9700 Sheperd's Drive, Kansas City, MO. 64131.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Classifieds

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Classifieds is a free service provided for Creek Citizens.

To place a classified advertisement in the Muscogee Nation News please contact the Communications Department Classified Section at 918-732-7643 or email the advertisement content to Cbrown@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Advertisement space is limited and ads will be placed as they are received according to space.

Appliances

GE 8 cycle washer, almond color, good condition works fine $100. Call (918) 756-4349.

2 Whirlpool Electric Dryers $75.00 each. Call (918) 267-5053.

Automobiles

Freightliner 18 wheel Dump Truck $16,000. Call (918) 906-8509.

1991 Dodge Diesel 4x4 pickup, good work truck $4000. Call (918) 906-8509.

1997 Silver Buick LeSabre $3500. Very Clean, runs good. Call (918) 906-8509.

1995 White Ford E250 Cargo Van $4500. Call (918) 906-8509.

1996 White Chevy Astro Van, runs and body is in fair shape $400. Call (918) 798-1643.

2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer LS Gold with black 2 wheel drive, 6 cylinder, Automatic, 4 doors, Onstar Center Air bags, 6000 miles, power windows and doors, will make April & May payment, equipped with luggage rack. Call William at (918) 733-1270.

'95 Chrysler New Yorker 4 door, runs good needs minimal body repair. Call (918) 756-3396.

Blue 94 Geo Tracker, removable hard top, runs good. Call (918) 756-3396.

1983 Three quarter ton Chevy 454, runs on gas or propane $2695. Call (918) 756-4349 after 5pm.

94 El Camino 305, extremely great condition low miles $4395. Call (918) 756-4349.

Clothing

Three pair of western jeans $20 each, sizes 11/12; one 3 piece western dress $10, size medium; one western blouse $10, size medium. Call (918) 686-6063.

Boys clothes, large sizes good condition. Leather Jackets $35 each. Call (918) 756-3571.

Prom Dresses – all dresses are size 12, $50. Call (918) 756-3571.

Prom Dress Turquoise – size 7. Contact Sherri Riley (918) 732-7943 (Price Negotiable).

Cosmetic and Health Care

Check out the new summer items and cosmetic line from Avon. Contact Angela Fields Avon Independent Sales Representative at (918) 284-3140.

Mary Kay cosmetic products available contact Marsha Lowe at (918) 652-1681.

Melaluca Products All Natural based products that promote wellness and vitality for more information contact Kimberly Reinking at (918) 652-3169.

Avon independent sales E-representative Glory Jones at http://www.youravon.com/gloryjones/

Farm & Garden

Looking for new or good condition used bee boxes. Contact (918) 473-7758.

2 New (never used) saddle racks in the shape of cowboys $150 each. Call (918) 733-2467.

42 inch Craftsmen mower deck (like new) with new, never used blades $250 or OBO. Call (918) 319-0654.

Furniture

Hutch for sale $575.00 or best offer call (918) 752-4062.

Solid wood bunk beds with detachable ladder. Frame is in really great shape, like new only used for 1 year $100. Call (918) 756-5025.

BenchCraft Sofa and Loveseat for sale for $650. Color: Tan, Material: Micro-Suede, 1.5 years old, only used for 9 months. Easy clean-up. Call (918) 756-5091.

Homes for Rent

Available now, small 2 bedroom cottage home with picket fence, historical Okmulgee neighborhood, see 701 North Morton Avenue. Call (918) 756-1788.

Mobile Homes For Sale

1982 14x76 Mobile Home, three bedrooms with large closets and 2 full baths $6000. Call (918) 810-9289.

Land for Lease

WANTED 80 or more acres of land to lease for hunting purposes or would consider purchasing. Contact Scott at (918) 650-3907 or (918) 652-3147.

Pets & Livestock

Registered Yorkie pups $1000, Maltese pups $800, Standard Poodle pups $600 and Labrador Retriever pups $250. Contact Creek Owned and Operated, Hale Kennels at (918) 906-8509.

Puggles (Part Pug/Part Beagle) just born! Now taking reservation deposits. Call (918) 756-5427.

Chocolate Labrador female 2 1/2 years old very affectionate and obedient pet. AKC Registered and proven breeder. Call (918) 827-5272.

Beagle pups 3 1/2 weeks old, registered. Call (918) 798-1643.

WANTED: I am looking for a female Rat Terrier. One to two years of age preferred. Call (918) 798-0643.

Misc.

WANTED: Painting and remodeling in Henryetta area to paint and remodel house. Call (918) 732-7645.

Wallpapering by Kathy, 27 years experience and free estimates. For more information, call (918) 652-9529 or (918) 652-5999.

Spring cleaning, brush, mowing, hauling misc. yard work in Okmulgee and surrounding area. Contact J. Polk and leave message at (918) 756-3571.

1991 Hi-Lo 22' Camper Travel Trailer $4000. Call (918) 759-0043.

Will make ribbon skirts and dresses. Contact Brenda LaSarge at (918) 759-2008 or 503 West Yuchi, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Eureka Boss vacuum cleaner $20. Call (918) 650-0628.

36 foot trailer, half car hauler/half enclosed. $2800. Call (918) 756-2032.

1995 34' Dutchman Motor Home only 19,500 miles. Excellent condition. Large 7KW AC, generation, hydraulic levels, rear camera, dash mounted adjustable air ride, tv, microwave and more $29,000. Call (918) 355-2362 cell phone.

Always Faithful Construction, State insured, commercial, residential, framing, remodeling, decks, free estimates. Contact Joe Martel, Jr. at (918) 304-9757 or Ben Gibson, Jr. at (918) 902-2428.

Want to be on a poster? The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services needs children between 4 and 15 years of age and adults to particpate in the 2005 Foster Care Program Poster. If you are interested please contact Lila Garrett at 918-732-7862.

"Mahenwahdose" performing at art festival

OKMULGEE — David Anderson, director of the Creek Council House Museum, is pleased to announce that MAHENWAHDOSE, an American Indian Production Company based in Tulsa, will be performing at the Council House Indian Art Festival on June 18th. Founded in 1992, Mahenwahdose is dedicated to portraying American Indians authentically and accurately through high-performance theatre using the American Indian mediums of legends, language, song, comedy and dance. They have performed in over 2,850 schools, universities and museums across the nation.

Will Hill and Jahnean Washington

Mahenwahdose features nationally known Muscogee storyteller Will Hill, a full-blood Muscogee. He has performed all over the United States, as well as appearing in television and movies, and in September 1998, was named "Favorite Indian Performer in the State of Oklahoma for 1998" in a poll taken by the Oklahoma Indian Times. His melodic voice can also be heard telling stories passed down from generation to generation in his family on the audio tape, "Oklahoma Treasure Trails". Two of his stories are also featured in the book "Spider Spins a Story", published by Northland Publishers.

Performing with Hill (Kabitcha Feke Sego) will be Jehnean Washington (Inyeechedah Hokthalet), a multi-dimensional actress and dancer who is of Cherokee, Yuchi and Seminole descent. Both have appeared in the Cherokee Nation's "Trail of Tears" presentation.

Dressed in traditional tribal regalia, they will share the history, storytelling, song and dance of America's first people, as the audience meets Rabbit, Cricket Woman and Istebabah, the Mountain Lion Cub and others as they demonstrate through comedy the lessons learned by Native children of long ago.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 18, at 2:30 p.m. and bring your family, friends and neighbors to experience wonderful Native American storytelling and legends by Will Hill at the Creek Council House Museum.

For more information, call the museum at (918) 756-2324. This presentation is sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and National Endowment for the Arts.

Cultural Day

Pictured (left to right) Debra Isham, Lillian Thomas, Sue White and Bertha Taylor

OKMULGEE — During the Cultural Day at the Creek Complex, pottery making was popular with the students. The tent was crowded with students waiting to mold clay into small pots and sculptures. The instruction was provided by ladies from the pottery class held at the Creek Council House Museum and the Creek Council House Museum staff.

3rd Annual Tinker Inter-Tribal Council Powwow

MIDWEST CITY — The 3rd Annual Tinker Inter-tribal Powwow will be held at Joe B. Barnes Regional Park.

The events schedule includes: gourd dance, 2 p.m; supper, 5 p.m.; gourd dance, 6 p.m. and grand entry, 7 p.m.

The emcee will be Bobby Wallace.

For more information, call Kelly Switch at (405) 677-2127 and for vendor information, call Marsha Lena at (405) 733-3587 or (405) 760-4658.

Thunderbird Casino Anniversary Powwow

NORMAN — The Thunderbird Casino will host their 18th Anniversary Celebration Powwow on June 24 and 25.

The emcee will be Dean White Beast.

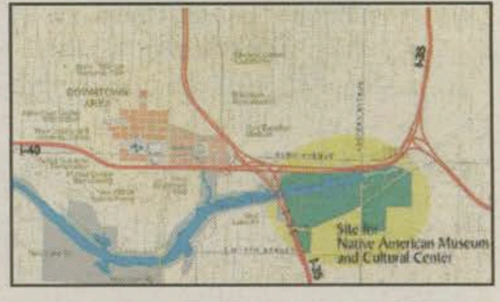
Friday night events begin at 7 p.m. with a Stompdance Exhibition beginning at 11 p.m. Saturday's schedule will start at 2 p.m.

For more information, call Lisa Frazier at (800) 259-5825 ext. 226. There is limited vendor space available, to request application contact Shawn at (800) 259-5825 ext. 270.

The casino is located at 15700 E. Highway 9.

by Judy Gibbs Robinson, The Oklahoman

OKLAHOMA CITY — Construction of the long-promised American Indian Cultural Center on the south shore of the Oklahoma River will begin November 1.



"We're going to break ground on this cultural center. We've set a date," Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby, chairman of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority.

Applause erupted from an audience of political and civic leaders – Indian and non-Indian – at a reception to celebrate the closing of a $33 million revenue bond issue for the center. The bonds cap years of fundraising that secured federal, state and city commitments along with more than $2 million in private donations.

Total cost of the project, which will be built on about 300 acres of city land between Interstates 35 and 40 and Eastern Avenue, is estimated at $135 million.

Many of those at the reception had been working on the project since 1994, when the Legislature established the authority to develop an Indian cultural center. Others were there before that, when the idea was in its infancy.

"I do remember in the early '90s we started talking about the dream," Lt. Gov. Mary Fallin said. "This dream has become a reality."

The center is scheduled to open November 16, 2007 – Oklahoma's centennial.

"Governor, we're going to have to really hurry to get everything going by 2007 and to get some things up," Fallin said.

"We're going to have something to celebrate on Statehood Day in 2007," Anoatubby responded.

The date that was of more concern to chief architect Bill Fain was the November 1 start of construction, only five months away.

"We'll have to put twice as many people on the job. Terrific," he noted dryly.

He got no sympathy from an audience eager for Oklahoma to have a long-promised, world-class venue to showcase the story of the state's 39 federally recognized tribes.

"Nothing is as powerful as an idea whose time has come," Mayor Mick Cornett said. "I think that's the result of all the people in this room and all the hard work that's gone into it."

Anoatubby said, "I can't find the words to truly express myself when it comes to this day. It's a day for us. It's a day for Oklahoma."

Church Events

Church Revival

KONAWA — Cold Springs Baptist will be having a revival June 13 through 16 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.

The evangelist is Johnny Shomo of Idabel. The song leader is Keeno King of Big Cypress New Testament Baptist Church.

Vacation Bible School will also be held June 13 through 17. The schedule includes: aerobics, 6:30 a.m.; breakfast, 7:30 a.m. and bible school begins at 9 a.m.

The church is located 3 ¼ miles east of Konawa.

Creek Hymn Singing

OKMULGEE — Creek hymn singing will be presented at the 31st Annual Muscogee (Creek) Festival on June 17th & 18th.

The church limit has increased this year to the first 15 churches of the Methodist and Baptist denomination.

Those churches that are interested in participating in the Creek hymn singing, call Helen Coon at 227-0896 or Mike Coon at 693-3391.

Reunion Memorial Gospel Singing

KONAWA — A reunion memorial gospel singing will be held June 19th at Cold Springs Baptist Church beginning at 10 a.m.

The emcee will be Keeno King of Big Cypress New Testament Baptist Church.

Special guests include: Crosby's of Broken Bow; Gastineaus of Ada; The Orphan Family of Vanoss and the Seminole Boys Reunion.

All solo, duets and quartets welcome.

The church is located 3 ¼ miles east of Konawa.

Church Revival

SAND SPRINGS — Wekiwa Indian Baptist Church will be having a revival on June 20 through 24.

The revival will begin at 7 p.m. nightly.

The speaker is Rev. Steve Holata, the song leader will be Sarah Harjo and the pianist is Juanita Kelly.

The church directions are: take 412 west to Sand Springs, exit 177th W. Ave., turn east past underpass to Old Wekiwa Road and follow signs.

Vacation Bible School

SAPULPA — Little Cussetah Baptist Church will be having their Vacation Bible School June 20 through 24.

Indian Falls Creek 2005

DAVIS — Indian Falls Creek 2005 will be held on August 1 through 5. The theme for Indian Falls Creek 2005 will be "Fill the House".

The camp preacher will be Clint Sinclair, a well known evangelist. The worship team will consist of Jesse Hernandez, Tyrone Smith, Donna Bear and Neil Thompson.

The registration fees for children 5 years and younger is $8 and 6 years old and older is $20.

For housing options, please call Slim Crabtree, housing director, at 405-382-2334 or Jim Gordon at 405-382-3564.

For more information contact, Victor Cope at 405-598-8720 or e-mail at NDNrev@aol.com.

2005 Muskogee-Seminole-Wichita Association and 4th Sunday Church service dates

June 12	June 19	June 26	**July 3**
July 10	July 17	July 24	**July 31**
August 7	August 14	August 21	August 28
September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
October 2	October 9	October 16	October 23
October 30	November 6	November 13	November 20
November 27	December 4	December 11	December 18
December 25			
Achena	Artussee	Butler Creek	Arbeka
Alabama	Beaver	Cedar Creek (Eufaula)	Arbeka Methodist
Alabama Quarsarty	Bemo	Grave Creek	Big Arbor
Belvin Baptist	Bird Creek	Greenleaf	Hickory Ground #1
Cedar Springs	Buckeye Creek	Hitchite	High Springs (Okemah)
Cold Springs	Deep Fork Hillabee	Nuyaka	High Springs (Konowa)
Creek Chapel	Hickory Ground #2	Sand Creek	Hilltop
Hutchachuppa	Little Cussetah	Sand Springs	Little Cussetah
Little Coweta	Mekusukey	Tallahassee	Middle Creek #1
Little Quarsarty	Middle Creek #2	Thewahle	Rock Spring (Anadarko)
Many Springs	Montesoma	Tookaparfka	Ryal Community (Baptist)
New Joy Mission	Okfuskee	Tukapuchee	Seminole Baptist
Okmulgee Baptist	Pecan Grove	Tuskegee	Salt Creek Baptist
Prairie Springs	Rock Springs (Sasakwa)	Wewoka Ind. Baptist	Salt Creek Methodist
Spring	Sand Creek (Eufaula)	Yeager Methodist	Snake Creek #1
Weogufkee	Tulmochussee		
West Eufaula	Wetumka		
Wewokuce			
Yardeka			

BOLD denotes two 4th Sundays of the month.

If you would like to have your church events announced, mail them to *Muscogee Nation News*, Attention: Jennifer, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, fax at (918) 758-0824 or e-mail at jtaryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Concharty Church 'Love Fest'

BIXBY — Concharty Methodist Church Lay Leader, Larry Hudgens, prepares to 'ring' the church bell to let fellow congreation members know that the 'Love Fest' is about to begin during the yearly Senior Methodist Camp meeting. The meeting was held on May 7 and 8.

A communion service, singing and an honor ceremony for fellow Church members was also part of the agenda.

Summer heat is tough on pets

by Trisha Gedon, Posted by Agricultural Communication Services

STILLWATER — Short of installing air conditioning in Rover or Fido's doghouse, there are several things that pet owners can do to help their furry friends make it through the dog days of summer.

Just as humans can experience heat stress during the hottest months of the summer, pets can be susceptible to the heat as well, said Dr. Carolynn MacAllister Cooperative Extension Service veterinarian. "Part of reducing the chances of heat stress are just common sense," MacAllister said. "What would you do for yourself? One of the most common causes of heat stress is being left in an enclosure without ventilation. Quite commonly you'll see dogs and sometimes even children locked in a car. Even with the windows cracked, the temperature inside the car can rise quite quickly. Envision yourself sitting there in the car. You can open the door and get out, but your dog can't. Even putting your car in the shade doesn't solve the problem. I just urge people to leave their pets at home."

When the outside temperature is 93 degrees, the inside of a car - even one with its windows down - can reach deadly temperatures of 125 degrees or more in just a few minutes due to the sun beating down on the windows and metal roof.

Another factor that can lead to heat stress for animals is over-exertion during the hot and humid times of the day. "Unlike people, dogs don't sweat, they pant to cool themselves. If they are exercising with you on hot pavement, they can get overheated fairly quickly, especially if it's humid," she said.

When dogs pant, they pull air across their nasal turbinates. Through this process there is fluid loss because of evaporation, so it is important to have lots of water for your pet and provide them with shade.

Pet owners who exercise with their pets are encouraged to do so during the early morning hours or wait until evening when the sun is going down. Although this is not as common, MacAllister said animals that are tied in a yard can suffer heat stress if they become tangled in the tether and are unable to reach their water or the shade.

"Make sure that wherever you have your animal, there is shade throughout the afternoon, especially between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.," she said. "Remember that as the angle of the sun changes throughout the summer, be sure the area you are keeping your pet remains in the shade the whole time."

USDA Food Guide Pyramid gets a new look and new name

by Trisha Geon, Posted by Agricultural Communication Services

STILLWATER — The USDA Food Guide Pyramid has taken on a new look and a new name. Now known as "My Pyramid: Steps to A Healthier You," the new My Pyramid focuses on a personalized approach to eating healthy.

The new food guidance system is based on the 2005 Dietary guidelines for Americans and has been more than a year in the making, said Stephany Parker, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension assistant specialist. "The old Food Guide Pyramid was too general to be truly effective," Parker said. "The key in this new approach is that is symbolizes a personalized approach to healthy eating and physical activity."

While food is still categorized into groups, including grains, vegetables, fruits, oils, milk, and meat and beans, the new system shows individuals how many calories they need for a healthy weight. There are 10 calorie levels included for males and females starting at age 2, with activity levels of sedentary, moderately active and active.

"For the first time, the USDA Food Guidance includes recommendations for physical activity. The person climbing the steps on My Pyramid represents each individual being active," Parker said. "It is recommended that each person should include at least 30 minutes of exercise on most days. This should include more than normal daily activity unless your job includes a lot of physical activity.

Exercise is one way to lower your risks of diseases such as heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes and cancer. "In an effort to manage weight and prevent unhealthy weight gain, individuals need up to 60 minutes or more of moderate to vigorous physical activity on most days of the week. Those who need to lose weight or keep weight off should participate in 90 minutes of moderate exercise every day.

My Pyramid is made up of food group triangles that are wider at the bottom and get narrower as they go up to the tip of the pyramid. Foods that contain little or no solid fats or added sugar are represented by the wider base of each triangle to indicate that individuals should choose these foods more often. The narrow tops of the triangles represent foods that contain more added sugars and solid fats. For example, steamed broccoli would be found at the base of a triangle. Moving up the triangle you would find broccoli with lemon juice and olive oil, followed by broccoli with cheese sauce. In the grains group one would find cooked plain oatmeal, then sweetened instant oatmeal with raisins, oatmeal cookies, then at the top would be oatmeal cookies with chocolate chips and frosting.

"Another change in the food pyramid is the width of the six bands themselves, which include the five food groups and the oils. The widest band is grains, then vegetables and milk," she said. "The fruit band is wider than the meat and beans band and the oils band is the thinnest band. Oils are included for the first time because research indicates that vegetable oils and oils in some fish contain fatty acids that are important for health." The widths of the bands suggest how much food a person should choose from each food group.

Keep in mind that these are just a general guide. How much food from each food group depends on how much each individual needs in regard to calorie needs based on gender, age and activity level.

For more information about finding your calorie level, go to www.MyPramid.gov, fill in your age, gender and activity level. The Web site will calculate how much of each of the food groups is recommended for you to eat. The site also features menu suggestions and works sheets that can be printed out.

"Fortunately the USDA realizes this will not be a quick fix and no one can make the changes in their diet and activity patterns overnight," Parker said. "It's important to take one step at a time toward a healthier you." The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, or status as a veteran, and is an equal opportunity employer.

History of experiment stations

from OSU extra

Signed on March 2, 1887, the Hatch Act gave this nation its network of agricultural experiment stations, allowing us, through research, to become the most effective and efficient producer of food and fiber in the world.

The Hatch Act attacked general ignorance of the growing conditions in this country, thus making our farmers more productive. Research findings from systems across the country revised farming methods to fit the diverse geography of America and improved farm animals to fit public needs. Agricultural scientists have followed the trail of success with the aid of Hatch Act finding, a federal state research partnership that has emancipated our people from the specter of hunger and poverty and the drudgery of subsistence agriculture production.

Cooperative Extension Service, which ultimately took the findings of researchers from the universities to the fields of farmers in the respective states.

The Hatch Act of 1887, revised in 1955, states that **experiment stations** should, conduct original and other research, investigations and experiments bearing directly on and contributing to the establishment and maintenance of a permanent and effective agricultural industry.

The system was designed from its inception to meet the needs of agriculture in the areas in which it was located. But research findings seldom benefit just one area. More often, they have application in many places, and some breakthroughs resulting directly from Hatch Act funding literally benefited every man, woman and child in the U.S. and much of the world.

Left to right: Little Miss Division II winner, Lilly Freeman; Little Miss Division I winner, Newakis Hicks; Little Miss Division I runner-up, Nina Fox and Little Miss Division II runner-up, Tafv Hicks.

Top row (l to r): Miss Muscogee runner-up, Leandra Thompson; Miss Muscogee second runner-up, Jaymee Bullett; Brenna Littlehead and Melanie Frye. Front row (l to r): Delana Bear, Jr.; Jr. Miss Muscogee winner, Cherie Cassaday; Miss Muscogee winner Katie Burden and Tavlulabi Crook.

Left to right: Little Miss Division I winner, Newakis Hicks and Little Miss Division I runner up, Nina Fox.

2005 Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Katie Burden

Jr. Miss winner Cherie Cassaday receives her sash.

Left to right: Senior Miss winner, Mulsie Long; Miss Muscogee winner, Katie Burden and Jr. Miss Muscogee winner, Cherie Cassaday.

Left to right: Little Miss Division II winner, Lilly Freeman and Little Miss Divsion III winner, Shelby Powell.

National Congress of American Indians offer memberships packages

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) needs the support and contributions of tribal and individual members to continue our work to promote Indian treaty, traditional, cultural and other rights. The NCAI engages in both legislative and administrative advocacy on behalf of its membership. Moreover, the NCAI strives to ensure that all member tribes and individuals are informed and educated about all such issues affecting the well-being of Indian nations.

The NCAI is proud to provide the Sentinel newsletter to its membership on a quarterly basis. The Sentinel provides an update on NCAI activities and is a resource for up-to-date information on legislation appropriations, regulatory activity and court decisions.

NCAI invites you to become an individual member of the Congress. Follow the link www.ncai.org, print, fill out the form, and mail it to the above address. Forms for Tribal membership are also provided below.

Membership Dues

Native Individual - Voting	$40
Associate Individual - Non-Voting	$40
Associate Organization	$500
Lifetime Membership	$1000

The NCAI is a non-profit organization supported primarily through membership dues and contributions. Individuals or organizations interested in making a tax deductible contribution should make checks payable to: The National Congress of American Indians 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20036, by phone (202) 466-7767 or fax at (202) 466-7797.

NCAI and ITMA hold second reform meeting

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — NCAI and ITMA hold second trust reform meeting on May 4. The National Congress of American Indians and the Intertribal Monitoring Association concluded their second meeting on trust reform. The meeting was co-chaired by NCAI President Tex Hall and ITMA Chairman Jim Gray and hosted by Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley Jr. They led a discussion among tribal leaders, Indian landowners and Congressional staff members on efforts to draft legislation that would reform the Indian trust and settle the Cobell v. Norton lawsuit.

"This is a monstrosity we're talking about," said Shirley. "We're talking about billions and billions of dollars. Were trying to come to a resolution for an injustice that has been done. It's a tough case. It's very complex. But as far as I know, if we can come together, we can make a settlement on behalf of our allottees." Despite the difficult talks, Hall and Gray said they were encouraged by the progress. "At the end of the day, what this is about is creating real ownership and responsibility for our own assets," said Hall. Added Gray: "Our recommendations will bring accountability and fairness to the system."

The tribal workgroup plans to submit a proposal to Congress that will address four major issues: settlement of Cobell, reform at the Interior Department, land consolidation and trust asset mismanagement.

Sen. John McCain (R-Arizona), the chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, said earlier this year that he wants to resolve outstanding trust issues. But he warned that he would only give it "one good shot."

"If it looks like we're not getting anywhere," McCain said at a hearing in March, "then I will leave that task to future Congresses and the courts."

The goal of the workgroup is to submit legislation to McCain and the Senate committee by early June. Additional hearings could be held in the summer in hopes of making changes during the Congressional recess in August.

Tribes have diverged widely with the Bush administration on reform efforts at Interior. At the hearing in March, the committee was told that the reorganization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and expansion of the Office of Special Trustee does not address key trust issues such as standards and oversight.

The Cobell plaintiffs are also at odds with the administration over reform and the amount owed to Indian beneficiaries for the use of their land. Mediated talks organized by the Senate and House have failed to produce any concrete solutions.

Working together, the tribes and the Cobell plaintiffs are drafting legislation that would resolve the lawsuit in a way that is fair and equitable. Language to settle the case has been proposed and circulated among the workgroup for discussion.

Office of Special Trustee for American Indians opens Nationwide Trust Beneficiary call center

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Indian Trust beneficiaries now have a nationwide toll-free location to call for information on their trust account.

OST began the Trust Beneficiary Call Center service as a pilot-program in the Concho and Anadarko agencies in Oklahoma. By December of 2005, beneficiaries across the nation will have direct access to the Call Center, without even having to dial an extension.

During the first four-and-a-half months of operation, Call Center staff members answered 18,908 calls from Indian Trust account holders. The majority of calls were concerning specific account information, but many callers asked questions about other issues such as realty, mineral leases and new probate laws. Of these calls, 17,775 of the callers had their questions answered immediately.

In the past, callers may have contacted their local BIA office, where employees often had to spend many hours finding answers to inquiries. By contacting the Call Center, it is estimated that more than 963 hours were saved for Department of the Interior field staff to focus on other Indian trust-related issues.

According to Special Trustee Ross Swimmer, "This is the first time Indian Trust beneficiaries have had a convenient, one-stop resource for trust asset information. In a matter of minutes, beneficiaries can now get answers to their questions.

In the past it could take hours or days of telephone tag between Interior employees for people to get answers. The time saved by Interior field staff, who now can focus on their responsibilities to beneficiaries, is invaluable for Indian Country and is sure to translate into increased productivity."

Call Center staff also help with other Indian Affairs projects, such as locating Indian trust account holders who do not have a current address on file and whose whereabouts are unknown.

Last year, one Call Center staff member was able to help identify a trust beneficiary whose whereabouts were previously unknown, and who had more than $100,000 in an Indian Trust account.

The new Trust Beneficiary Call Center is just one of a number of trust reform efforts that Interior is undertaking to improve both services and information for Indian Trust beneficiaries across the country.

Other projects include providing Direct Deposit of funds for account holders, creating a nationwide system for all trust data, establishing a secure "lock-box" procedure for collections, and updating trust asset title information. All of these projects fall under the umbrella of the Fiduciary Trust Model adopted by the Department of the Interior in 2004. For a copy of the model, see www.doi.gov/ost.

The Trust Beneficiary Call Center is open from Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mountain Time. Hours will be extended to evenings and weekends in coming months.

Consumers and Artists Can File Complaints Online about Falsely Labeled "Indian-Made" Products

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Consumers can now file complaints about products falsely labeled as Indian-made on the U.S. Department of the Interior's Web Site. Complaints can be filed on the updated web page, www.doi.gov/iacb, of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board.

The IACB, an agency located in the Interior Department, is in charge of enforcement of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990. The 1990 Act is a truth-in-advertising law that provides criminal and civil penalties for marketing products as "Indian-made" when such products are not made by Indians.

Under the Act, an Indian is defined as a member of any federally or state-recognized Indian Tribe or an individual certified as an Indian artisan by and Indian Tribe. It is illegal to offer or display for sale or sell any art or craft product in a manner that falsely suggests it is Indian produced, an Indian product or the product of a particular Indian or Indian Tribe or Indian arts and crafts organization, resident within the United States.

If you become aware of any market activity that you believe may be violation of the Act, please contact the Indian Arts and Crafts Board either online at http://www.doi.gov/iacb/ or at 1-888-ART-FAKE.

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Pediatric Dentist - Okmulgee:

Requirements: Must be eligible for Pediatric Licensure in the State of Oklahoma.

Public Health Nurse - Okmulgee:

Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing, have two years of relevant experience in the field of Public Health, possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Registered Nursing (prefer BSN) or Diploma, or an AD nurse.

Van Driver (2 positions):

Muskogee ENP and Twin Hills ENP

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler's permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

CEO - Creek Nation Health System:

Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, business or management fields, substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities – Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contract Health Services. In addition candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the field.

Staff Dentist (Part-Time) - Sapulpa:

Requirements: A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program or a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation; Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia; One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

Grant Writer:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with emphasis in Finance, Marketing, Communications, Journalism, or related area of study is preferred. An Associated Degree is required. A minimum of three years of relevant experience is preferred. An equivalent amount of experience may be substituted for educational requirement. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Health System Administrator - CNCH:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Management, or related field of study is required. A Master's Degree (MPH) in a related field is preferred. A minimum of two years of experience in the health care management/administration field is required, preferably in a tribal environment.

CHR Generalist:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalency is required. One year relevant experience. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable. This position requires the employee to maintain a residential telephone. Residence in or near Wagoner County is highly desirable.

Physician Assistant - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. One year of relevant experience is preferred. An emphasis in Women's Health Care is preferred. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AAMC, or other body established for this purpose.

LPN - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited practical nursing curriculum is required. One year relevant experience as a member of a nursing team. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Practical Nursing and current CPR certification.

Clinical Nurse Specialist - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited professional program for advanced registered nursing practitioners as Clinical Nurse Specialist. One year relevant experience is required.. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

Billing Technician (Temporary):

Requirements: Associates Degree in accounting or a related business field is preferred. One year of relevant experience is required with an Associates Degree. Four years of relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements stated above.

Receptionist - BHS Okemah:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A minimum one year related experience is required.

Medical Records Clerk - Sapulpa:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalency is required. One year relevant experience is preferred.

CHS Benefits Coordinator - Sapulpa:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of a program or training in medical office technology or related field is preferred. A minimum of two years related experience. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Statistical Officer / Epidemiologist:

Requirements: A Master's Degree in Public Health Administration (MPH) or related field is preferred. A minimum of two years experience related to statistical analysis.

Application Procedures:

Submit a current Division employment application form or resume, (a transfer request form for current employees.) All application materials are to be submitted to the attention of the Staffing Specialist. For further information call Personnel Services at (918) 732-7829.

Trade & Commerce

Trade and Commerce is accepting applications for the following:

Travel Plaza - Okmulgee

Travel Plaza - Muskogee

Muscogee Document Imaging

Farm Authority

For more information on employment opportunities at Trade & Commerce please contact Alexis at 918-732-7764.

These jobs have an Indian Preference.

Kane retires after 12 years of service

OKMULGEE — Mary Ann Kane retired on May 13. She has served in all communities with the Creek Nation with great enthusiasm and caring for the past 12 years. "Her smile and friendliness was one of the outstanding qualities displayed at many functions of the Creek Nation. Her untiring lectures of what we should and should not eat made her somewhat famous among our citizens, not only in the Creek Nation but across many boundaries and one of her great qualities is the fact that she actually walked the talk." Said CHR Cyndi Gilks, "Mary Ann could be seen at dinners, such as employee Christmas dinners, actually scraping the icing off her cake, or actually removing the skin from her chicken, saying NO to seconds. This is just an example of how much Mary Ann cares for our citizens. We will miss her a lot, however, she is very active in her church work at Newtown and our loss will be the gain of another beneficial community organization."

Kane

Kane has worked as a Community Health Representative, serving the communities with various tasks, she has sat on committee boards with a strong voice of opinion for her communities as well.

"I would like to say, as the Manager of the CHR Program, that I recall my first day as a CHR, Mary Ann welcomed me into the program and made me feel like I had someone to depend on and who would be there when I needed help. After several years I witnessed that this was just Mary Ann and this was her true compassion showing through. I have been fortunate enough to laugh, cry, confide and possibly even solve a few problems with this wonderful lady. Mary Ann will be missed as an employee, but the one thing I will miss most is her giggle that can be heard throughout the office," said Gilks.

Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Day Camps

OKMULGEE — The Community Diabetes Prevention Program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will offer a 3 Day Summer Youth Camp that stresses healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention.

The first two days will include diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, and fun. The last day will be a field trip to Big Splash in Tulsa.

Last year our diabetes program earned a National Health Promotion Award for our Diabetes Prevention Youth Camps.

We will start taking registration for these summer camps on June 15. These camps will be for any American Indian youth 10-15 years of age and living in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundary.

The camp schedule includes: Okemah, July 18 through 20; Okmulgee, July 20 through 22; Sapulpa, August 1 through 3 and Eufaula Area Camp, August 3 through 5.

If you would like a registration form, call your clinic diabetes program after June 15. Registration is limited and new campers will be given preference. Last year's campers are welcome to register again this year.

Wetumka Indian Community goes smoke free

WETUMKA — The Wetumka Indian Community is being educated on the significance of sacred tobacco use and the harmful effects of commercial tobacco use through Tobacco Prevention workshops and presentations from the Policy Advocacy on Tobacco and Health Project representatives.

The community has taken the first step in tobacco control by being the first community to adopt and enact the Wetumka Indian Tobacco Use Policy and Resolution, by a unanimous vote at the regular meeting of the Wetumka Indian Community on April 18.

The Wetumka Indian Community chose to adopt the Tobacco Use Policy in order to protect the health of all community members. This policy is not intended to control any person's choice to use tobacco products, but rather to create a healthier environment for everyone. Wetumka Chairman, Sylvanna Caldwell stated, "We hope that we have initiated in the hearts and minds of our Mvskoke people in other communities to declare their right for clean air."

Family Diabetes Prevention Camp 2005

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program held their annual Family Diabetes Prevention Camp on May 23 through 26 at Rhema Ranch.

The camp provided education on the prevention and control of diabetes though different sessions and fun activities. Opportunities for exercise were provided each day and the youth attending camp with their families had their own curriculum. Each camper went through a diabetes health or risk assessment the first morning of camp and the diabetes staff went over the assessments with the campers to give them an understanding of their health status.

Camp is always a time of fellowship and getting to know others who struggle with diabetes and have concern for preventing this disease for future generations.

Tobacco Prevention Program attends conference

CHICAGO, I.L. — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program attended the 2005 Nation Conference on Tobacco and Health on May 4-6.

The theme of the conference was "Turning Point: Challenges and Opportunities in Tobacco Control in the Next Decade."

When the Tobacco Prevention Program arrived on May 3 pre-conference activities were winding down. The Cross-Cultural Leadership and Parity Institute made presentations on advocating for policy change in tobacco control for communities of color and other disparate populations.

Marcus Proctor, Tribal Education Specialist, attended the youth training track and learned strategies to engage young people in the tobacco movement.

Gena Robert, Policy Coordinator, attended the policy track and learned of the new policy being implemented in other areas around the country.

Cynthia Coachman, Program Manager, attended general sessions and made a workshop presentation.

The workshop title, "Women, Girls and Smoking" included presenters from Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids and the Task Force for Tobacco-Free Women and Girls.

Cynthia presented with a group she has been working with to modify the existing "Second Wind" curriculum for AN/AN pregnant women.

Ladonna BlyeEye, BlueEye Consulting, and Sarah Carlson, Smoke-Free Beginnings, presented the workshop together about the project that includes focus groups done in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation area with pregnant Native American mothers. The workshop was presented on May 6.

"When a full house showed up for the workshop that goes to show this is an area that is of concern for people working in this area of tobacco control," said Cynthia Coachman.

A more recent presentation by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program was invited to present a workshop highlighting the "Second Wind" curriculum developed and implemented at the MCN Health System.

On May 18, Cynthia Coachman presented at the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease & Diabetes Among American Indians and Alaska Natives 2005 in Denver, Colorado.

Another presentation is scheduled for June 21 in Ottawa Ontario, Canada. The First Nations session for the 4th National Conference on Tobacco or Health invited two the CDC Tribal Support Centers to present their work.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan will do the joint workshop that will focus on policy advocacy in tobacco control in Indian Communities.

Your Responsiblities as a new homeowner

We have a common goal

The home buyer along with the Housing Division share the goal of providing safe, decent and sanitary housing at an economical cost. With this purpose in mind the agreement entered into by the homeowner and the housing authority states responsibilities of both the home buyer and the Housing Authority.

Responsibilities of the home buyer

The home buyer shall be responsible for all maintenance of the home. Maintenance includes the repair and/or replacement of all items, interior and exterior these items are included but not limited to the lists below.

•*Exterior items include*: exterior walls, exterior door, central air units, roofing, fascia and trim, landscaping, septic tanks, garage, window screens.

•*Interior items include*: interior walls, electrical fixtures, interior doors, flooring, plumbing fixtures, locks & jambs, windows, shut off valves and all appliances.

Failure to meet homeowner obligations

Failure by the home buyer to satisfactorily complete the required maintenance obligations constitutes a breach of the MHOA or Lease with Option to Purchase agreement. In the event that this occurs, the Authority shall require that the Home buyer develop a plan to resolve the breach and complete the maintenance work within a reasonable time.

Home Buyer Requirements

Keep the grounds, buildings and equipment in an sanitary and functional condition.

Avoid conditions that may lead to an injury or accident

Provide the necessary maintenance or repairs required to prevent further breakdown of other household elements.

Homeowner information you should know

Location of: Heating fuel shut off valve, Main Electrical shut-off switch, Main water shut off valve and Main drain line clean-cut.

Responsibilities of the Housing Authority

Training

The Housing Authority is responsible for providing counseling and training programs to advise potential Home buyers of their maintenance responsibilities prior to occupancy.

This training will include information on:

- The operation of appliances and equipment in the home
- Preventative maintenance programs.
- Energy conservation.
- Routine maintenance and housekeeping techniques

New Construction Inspections

The Housing Division will provide new construction inspection to help make sure the home buyer is as satisfied as possible under the rights of their agreement.

Prior to occupancy of a new home, a final inspection will be conducted by the contractor and a Housing Authority inspector. This inspection will include the items covered by manufacturers' and supplier's warranties, as well as those items covered by the contractor's warranties. After each inspection, Housing shall obtain a signed statement from the occupants as to any deficiencies in the structure equipment, grounds, etc., so that it may enforce any rights under the applicable warranties.

Acquisition Home Inspection

The Housing Division provides perspective acquisition home buyers with a walk through inspection of the potential home prior to acceptance. The client along with an officer from the Housing authority will inspect the acquisition home at which time the client will be given the option to either accept or decline the home.

The Housing Authority of the Creek Nation has the responsibility to make sure all home buyers are in compliance with all HACN policy obligations and assure that each home is being kept in a decent, safe and sanitary condition. It is the responsibility of each home buyer to meet all obligations agreed to in their MHOA/Lease with Option to Purchase. Be Sure to know the terms of your MHOA/Lease with option to purchase agreement.

Annual Inspections

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is required to conduct annual inspection reports on all NAHASDA Homes. The purpose of these inspections are to: 1) determine the condition of the home, 2) provide homeowners with information regarding maintenance and repair needs, 3) provide the Housing Division with additional statistical information in assessing housing needs, and 4) complete NAHASDA requirements.

This inspection is not a WARRANTY inspection; therefore, any and all maintenance and repair items are the responsibility of the homeowner.

Please note that an incomplete Annual Inspection is a violation that could result in termination of your NAHASDA Homeownership Agreement.

City Ordinances

Many homes are located within the jurisdiction of local city ordinances. Home buyers will be made aware of any such regulations and will be given copies of City Ordinances in that particular area and will be expected to abide by such regulations.

Routine Maintenance

Heating and Cooling systems – Replacing the filter

All Housing Authority homes are equipped with forced-air heating and cooling systems. The key to helping your system operate efficiently is keeping the air filter clean which means checking and if needed changing it every 1 to 3 months.

Filters are inexpensive and easy to replace, so check them monthly during the heating and cooling seasons.

Most blower doors lift or swing open. On counterflow models, the doors will be up top. Simply slide the filter out of its channel. Look for dirt on or around the blower, too. Vacuum, if necessary.

Outdoor Cooling Unit

Check that grass, leaves, dirt, etc. do not obstruct the out door coil. The coil fins may be cleaned by flushing with a water hose. Be sure to shut off power to unit before flushing to avoid electrical shock hazard. Do not flatten or bend coil fins, as this will harm unit efficiency.

Health Tip – Electrostatic Filters

If you want to breathe healthier, step up to a electrostatic air filter. This type of filter can be up to 30 times more effective than an ordinary fiberglass filter. This type of filter costs more at about $20 per filter but can be cleaned and reused for years. Electrostatic air filters use an electrostatic charge to trap more of the dust, smoke, and pollen particles that act as irritants in your home. For allergy sufferers, this type of filter can be an effective, affordable alternative to electronic air cleaners.

Hot Water Heater

Common water heater problems include: no hot water, water that isn't hot enough or is too hot or a water heater that rumbles or leaks.

No Hot Water, not hot enough or to hot – Check the temperature control. If it's set correctly, thermostat may be defective. Leave that to a professional. If you have a gas heater it's possible that the pilot light has gone out. First check your gas supply, you can also check you other gas appliances to see if they are working. If so, check the gas inlet valve to the tank and make sure it's open, then follow the instructions on the tank a try to relight the pilot. If no luck, call a professional. Check the flue for any obstruction and clear if needed. A defective heating element in a electric heater may also overheat water. If you suspect this, call a professional.

A Noisy water tank

Rumbling and whistling noises can be caused by sediment building up in the tank or water overheating. Check the temperature setting or draining the tank to clear sediment often helps.

Water Leak

A water leak may be cured simply by tightening the drain valve or by closing an open temperature-pressure relief valve. But be aware that water heaters have limited life spans; if the leak is serious, it's possible that your tank has become corroded. If that's the case, the water heater must be replaced.

Spotlight

"God called me to a lot of places. He called me to serve and that's all I have been trying to do."

Creek evangelist is a servant to the people

by Gerald Wofford

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

This Biblical verse is popular among Christian and non-Christians. It pretty much means what it says, a man is honored for his service by action and doing, a far cry from just plain lip service.

The Reverend Harry Long certainly fits this wonderful and demanding scripture. From his days going grow up near the community of Holdenville to his years as a combat veteran in World War II, his ministerial call to his God and his Muscogee (Creek) people was great.

The Reverend Billy Graham has been called the minister to America, with Long it can be said of the same to this tribal nation.

Long has not only ministered to a vast number of tribal citizens, but has mentored tribal Chiefs and other Indian ministers as well.

"He has meant so much to the tribe," said Second Chief Alfred Berryhill. "His service is immeasurable." Berryhill and others were in attendance when the Muskogee Indian Community Center held an honorary banquet for Reverend Long. Muscogee District Representative Sandra Parish echoed Berryhill's words. "He has been like a second Father to me," said Parish. "My life and my daughters have been blessed because of him."

Harry felt the call of God on his life way before he officially surrendered. He knew it was something he was destined to do. "God called me to a lot of places," said Long. "He called me to serve and that's all I have been trying to do."

Long

Like many men at a youthful age, Long was not without his doubt, especially in the years that Long was called to serve his country in the military. Long went into the service in 1942, during the early tumultuous years of the second world war.

But before Long would go off into a world that was way beyond the boundaries of his humble Muscogee (Creek) home, he would first have to say goodbye to his brothers, sisters and most importantly his mother.

Long came from a very reserve and introverted Indian family, one that did not always show emotion. Long recalls at the time, that this was just fine with him, for he was not someone who wanted much attention anyway. After receiving his draft notice from the U.S. Marine Corps, he was also notified of the specific date of when and where to report. His family did not own an automobile or horse, and he knew he would have to walk into town in order to report.

"Things seemed to be normal around the house," recalls Long of this time. "About a week before I was scheduled to leave, everyone wasn't acting any different, especially my mom, who I thought maybe would be a little emotional about now."

Long took it in stride, feeling that perhaps maybe his leaving wasn't that big of a deal after all, and that everything wouldn't change that much. Someday, very soon, he would return and everything would be the same as before.

"It's still hard for me to talk about it, even now," recalls Long. "The night before I went, nobody is saying anything or acting any different. I even tell my mom that I didn't want any special send off. My mom and my brothers and sisters didn't say much to me, course we never said a whole lot to each other anyway," laughs Long.

The anticipated morning had come, and Long decided he would make sure there would be no big pompous send off. He arose early, before the sun came up. He got himself dressed, grabbed his already packed suit case and walked out onto the dark wooden porch.

The weather was mild and clear as he looked at the dusty country road that led past the fence and farther down to the county road. The sun was starting to give a little light, making the time a little surreal, all the more reason Long thought that he should be on his way.

"As I walked away with my suitcase in hand, I knew everyone was still asleep so I knew I was gonna get away alright," says Long.

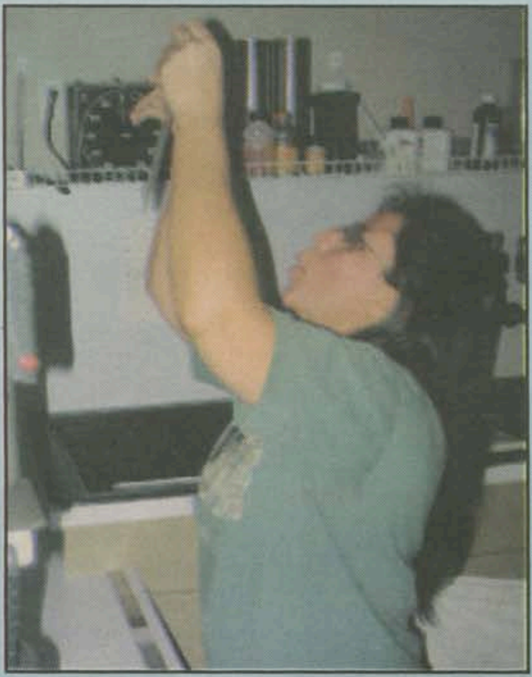
He was now on his way and made it to the end of the gated fence and to the latched opening. As Long made his walk, he sensed a strange feeling that his life would dramatically change and he and his family would never be the same again. He turned around one more time, there on the porch was his mother looking at him.

Long would survive the Pacific at battles such as Iwo Jima. When he became a full-time civilian, he would become what God had called him to be all along. His ministerial duties have taken him to missionary services on the streets of Phoenix and Los Angeles, to name a few.

Long is retired now, but is still called upon to minister and give advice to leaders and people alike. This Muscogee Minister has over 60 years in the ministry and is certainly a treasure to his people, God's people.

Through the eyes of a Muscogee Artist

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee (Creek) photographer, Kimberly Rodriguez is a featured artist's in the Back to Basics Photography exhibit at City Arts Center in Oklahoma City.



Kimberly Rodriguez examines negatives

Rodriquez is from the Bear Clan is the granddaughter of Alma Bruce (Martin) Brown originally from Stidham and the daughter of Anita (Brown) Rodriquez of Dallas, Texas. She who is Muscogee (Creek), Oglala Sioux and Mexican was born and raised in Dallas, Texas and graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Photography. Rodriquez has been the Merchandise Coordinator for Wright Studios in Dallas, Texas for the past 4 years, works as a freelance photographer and is pursuing further education to fine her skills in photo retouching.

Kimberly's work has recently been featured at 1308 Experimental Arts Space in Dallas, Texas. In an age where digital photography has become the norm, Rodriguez and other featured Oklahoma and regional artists prefer light and the camera vs. a computer screen and photoshop. A variety of photographic techniques such as: Cyanotype, Polaroid Transfer and Daguerreotype will be on display. In addition there will be a coinciding exhibition of children's photography called Eye Spy.

The Back to Basics Photography exhibit showcases the variety of styles and techniques within the medium of alternative photography. Don't let the name "Back to Basics deceive you! This exhibit will offer exceptional work that is anything but elementary! This celebration of the basic relationship between artist and camera has produced work that is innovative and contemporary. Each artist has explored alternative processes to develop a body of work with a fresh and unique appeal.

Rodriguez prefers to photograph the world without manipulation. Rodriguez comments, "I want to show how or where things were before they were lit, shot and burned to a disc." In her strip series, Rodriguez creates an interesting visual collage of disoriented subject matter combined with scenes from daily life. "I wasn't interested in capturing every detail of a building in my shot. I appreciate the abstract linear design of architecture every city has to offer and I wanted to keep the eyes moving throughout the images," says Kimberly. Using a Holga camera, Kimberly has allowed the natural occurrences of light leaks and ghosting to affect her composition. "I chose to use a Holga camera for this body of work because the accidental merging of shots intrigues me. Each frame took on a life of its own with whatever the next frame "saw." It became a conversation between Holga and me. I directed the lens, allowed the camera to 'talk to me' and the Holga interpreted my thoughts and emotions. Every roll of film was such a surprise! Some film worked out, some didn't which I find representative of life's journey," says Rodriguez.

Rodriguez' images on metal are captivating, as she permits the metal surface to emerge through the porous elements of her imagery. "I have always been enticed by metal. One of my favorite sculptural pieces in Boccioni's 'The Unique Forms of Continuity in Space.' Boccioni's work has such a strong foundation and is well grounded, yet also possesses fluid qualities and imparts forward motion. While working on my Bachelors degree, I constructed a 3-D aluminum puzzle that has always appealed to me. I have always wanted to incorporate metal into my work somehow and this was the perfect opportunity," states Rodriguez.

Rodriguez' accentuates tiny details in her compositions, encouraging the viewer to notice often overlooked details that appeal to her. "The minute details in the world speak to me," says Rodriguez.

Back to Basics Photography promises to be a photographic journey into the contemporary world of alternative process photography. Images will be presented in a wide variety of unique formats including: light boxes, photographic constructions and installation pieces.

There will be a coinciding children's photography exhibit in the back of the gallery entitled Eye Spy. Under the guidance of a professional photographer children will be given cameras to photograph the world as they see it. This exhibit opportunity has been made possible by Kirkpatrick Bank.

Full Season Gallery sponsors include: Allied Arts, Classical KCSC 90.1 FM, Kirkpatrick Family Fund, Mattison Avenue Publishing Corporation, Oklahoma Arts Council, Oklahoma's News Channel 4.

Diversafest (Dfest) 2005

TULSA — Dfest will be held at 18th & Boston on July 8 through 10. The Boston District will be flooded with over 85 nationwide bands performing to thousands of music fans with performers from far away as Los Angeles to New York. Some of the confirmed featured artists: Brandon Jenkins; Gooding, Lovedrug; Sherwood; SouthFM; Daphne Loves Derby; Woodpile and many more.

Dfest started in 2001 by Muscogee Creek Citizen, TJ Green, Founder/CEO/Sponsorship, Donnie Rich and Angie DeVore to strengthen the rich cultural diversity of Oklahoma's music scene.

The festival has grown from: 12 bands in 2001; 22 bands in 2002; 65 bands and industry panels in 2004 and now 97 bands, three days, eight industry panels and two music clinics in 2005. Dfest is a music festival and industry conference.

The Dfest 2005 Music Conference and Festival will serve as an event to showcase local, regional and national unsigned artists in front of music industry professionals and to introduce great unsigned artists to Oklahomans who might otherwise not be aware of these great artists. It also serves as an opportunity for these unsigned artists to meet and be mentored by the music industry professionals and also serves as an opportunity for them to network with acts who tour around the country in a fun, festival environment on a summer night.

The cost for the event is: $10 for each evening of the festival; $15 for a two night pass and $25 for an All-Event Pass to Conference Panels, Trade Show, and Music Clinics, and includes two-night festival pass.

This year Dfest will feature a CD compilation that will be given out free to the first 2000 people at DFEST 2005.

For more information, contact Diversafest (Dfest) 2005, P.O. Box 33141, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74153-1141, call at (918) 640-9519 or by e-mail at dfest04@hotmail.com or their website: www.dfest.com

May District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Beaver: Richard, Malissa, & Winter
- Lee-Smith: Kane v. Harley: Cassandra
Ex-Parte
- Thornburg: Johnny & Linda v. Garrett: Richard & Sherri
Ex-Parte
- Little: Michael & Codi v. Dale: Codi Jo
Ex-Parte

Criminal - Misdemeanor:

- MCN v. Brinkley: Nick
Uttering a Forged Instrument

Criminal - Felonies:

- MCN v. Lewis: Edmond
Ct. 1: Aggravated Battery
- MCN v. Coker: Brian
Ct. 1: Aggravated Battery

Traffic:

- MCN v. Bilby: Danny Wayne
Disorderly conduct
- MCN v. Suttles: Delmar Jerome
Disorderly Conduct

Civil/Small Claims:

- Bryant: Gary W. v. Okemah Casino
Petition
- Quapaw: Lynda v. Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa
Petition
- Advance America v. Wright: Joy
Small Claims
- Roughface: Kenneth v. Gann: Kara
Petition for Paternity

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Case No. AD 2005-05
In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the Matter of the Adoption of CMJ & HRJ, Minor Children.

NOTICE OF HEARING TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS, TO ALLOW ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF PARENTS, AND TO ALLOW WAIVER OF HOME STUDY

TO: Charles Dean July, Jr. and Tammie Jones Wallace Blackbear, Whereabouts Unknown

On the 26th day of April, 2005 a petition for Adoption without Consent of Natural Parents, and Application to Adjudicate Minors Eligible for Adoption without Consent of the Natural Parents, and an Application for Waiver of Home Study were filed in this Court by the adoptive parent, Charles Dean July, Sr., seeking an order of this Court to permit the adoption of CMJ and HRJ without the consent of the parents and to terminate rights of the parents. CMJ was born on the 13th day of June, 1990, to Charles Dean July, Jr. and Tammie Jones Wallace Blackbear. HRJ was born on the 4th day of October, 1992, to Charles Dean July, Jr. and Tammie Jones Wallace Blackbear. A hearing on said Petition and Applications is set for the 28 day of June, 2005, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock, a.m. in the District Courtroom in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore.

Petitioner has alleged in the Application that said children are eligible for adoption in that the parents of CMJ and MRJ are Charles Dean July, Jr. and Tammie Jones Wallace Blackbear and that no person has taken any action to legally establish claim to paternity of said children nor exercised parental rights or duties over said children.

Notice is hereby given that the Court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the applications at the time and place above shown where you will have the right to be present and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place including the right to object to the adoption of said children: Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the children, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in said children's adoption without your consent. Notice is hereby given that the court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the application to terminate your parental rights. If you do not appear at this hearing, the court will, on the date and time of the hearing, enter an order terminating your parental rights without further notice. Your parental rights to said children shall thereby be terminated in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma.

Signed and dated this 28th day of April, 2005
/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 6, June 2005

Case No. CV 2004-37
In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the matter of Baby Boy J., DOB 12-10-04 alleged deprived child.

NOTICE OF HEARING

To: Unknown Father

You are hereby given notice of termination of parental rights on the above-styled and numbered case in the District courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 27th day of June, 2005 at 9:00 A.M.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remains a ward of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 5th day of May, 2005.

/s/ Patrick E. Moore, Judge of the District

Moore

continued from page 3

A blade of grass held between the thumbs and blown upon imitated the cry of a fawn.

The Mvskoke hunter knew his scent was very important and for several days before a hunt he would only eat certain foods so his odor would be less likely to frighten the deer. He also knew not to smoke any tobacco before or during the hunt for deer are able to detect the odor of burned tobacco from great distances. He also approached upwind from the deer and would rub various roots between his hands that were attractive to the deer in order to draw the deer closed to the hunter.

The Mvskoke, over the eons of time, developed deer hunting skills modern hunters would marvel at today. These eastern woodlands hunters only hunted deer for food until the European trader entered the Mvskokes southeastern ancestral homeland. When the Mvskoke were exposed to trade goods such as rifles, gunpowder, knifes, saddles and horses and he found he could acquire these items for deer skins, the hunting for food skill turned into a hunting for commercial purposes skill.

Beginning in the late 1600's commercial hunting of deer by the Mvskoke commenced and continued into the mid 1700's. During this time frame, the Mvskoke hunter virtually eliminated White-Tailed Deer from the southeastern woodlands and during the same time period the Mvskoke hunter became part the largest armed force in the southeast, the Mvskoke Confederacy.

This Mvskoke dominance continued until French and Spanish influence was militarily eliminated by the British during the latter half of the 1700's. Then the Mvskoke trade rifles wore out, gunpowder became difficult to obtain and meddling European Colonists inspired a Civil War between factions within the Muscogee Confederacy over land cessions to the new United States, this Civil War decimated the once mighty Mvskoke Confederacy. This out side influence on the internal politics of the Mvskoke Confederacy coupled with invasions by border states militia further crippled the once powerful Mvskoke Confederacy resulting in the eventual easy removal of the Mvskoke Confederacy west of the Mississippi River to The Indian Territory.

FANNIE O'NEAL

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Fannie Lee (Jimsey) O'Neal were held May 6 at New Arbor Indian Baptist Church.

She was born July 19, 1923 to Lydia (McIntosh) and Unah (Jimsey) at Fame.

She lived in and around Eufaula during her younger years and attended the old Eufaula Boarding School.

Later, she moved to California and worked for the Green Giant Cannery, where she retired after 20 years.

After her retirement she had a home built on her father's original Indian Allotment in the Salem area. She loved to sit and talk and visit with friends and family, put puzzles together and do word search books.

Fannie was proceeded in death by her son Howard Jackson O'Neal and many loved ones.

Survivors include: one sister Hannah Mae Hornback of Henryetta; six daughters, Rose Ann Jimsey of California, Linda Dodd of Kentucky, Susan Cogill and Brenda Phillips, both of Eufaula, Mary Harper and Glenda Jimsey, both of Henryetta; one son, Charles Jones of Oklahoma City; stepchildren, David, Dennis, Donald and Mark Montgomery; 13 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and one niece.

Pallbearers include: grandsons, Jeremy and Jason Fairchilds; great nephews, Eddie Westmoreland and Jamie Mitchell; stepchildren Dennis and Donald Montgomery.

Honorary pallbearers were: Glenn Phillips, David Cogill, David Cogill II, Phillip Spinaio, Phillip Spinaio II, Christopher Osban, Newman Thompson and Wayne Montgomery.

Interment was at the McIntosh Family Cemetery.

MARGARET ROBERTS

OKLAHOMA CITY — Funeral services for Margaret Ellen Roberts were held May 2 at Weogofkee Indian Baptist Church.

Margaret was born May 19, 1925 to Rev. Dave Martin and Salina Carr.

She was employed for many years at the University Hospital, which was renamed the OU Health Sciences Center. She retired from the Dept. of Surgery in 1979 and moved with her husband to Dustin.

Roberts was not ready for full retirement so she began working at the Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah. She retired for the second time in December 2000.

She was proceeded in death by: her parents; son, Darryl and sisters, Doris Spurlock and Ernestine Marshall.

Survivors include: her husband, James; sons, James of Oklahoma City and Brent Roberts of Weleetka; daughters, Barbara McIntyre of Edmond and Patricia Roberts of Oklahoma City; sisters, Alma Brown of Sallisaw and Annabel Cowan of Porum; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Interment was held in Carson.

BARNEY WALKER JR.

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Barney Walker Jr. were held May 5 at Shurden Chapel with Rev. Mark Self officiating.

Walker

He was born on April 23, 1952 in Seneca, Arizona to Lucy and Barney Walker.

Walker graduated from Dewar High School in 1970 and soon after joined the Army where he served three years.

Barney was a carpenter and a veteran of the Vietnam era.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister and two brothers.

Survivors include: his wife, Neta of the home; two daughters, Regina Miller and Mindy Joe Hickman ,both of Coweta; one son, Greg Miller of League City, Texas; two grandsons; four granddaughters; one great-grandson; one sister, Andrea Walker of Eufaula; six brothers, Robert of Electra, Texas, Edward of Ada, Gary of Eufaula, Stanley of Cushing; Tommy and Danny Walker both of Broken Arrow; one uncle, Wiley Ryal of Inola; and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers include: Robert, Tommy and Edward Walker, Rollie Taylor, Eugene Herrod and Hercel Hickman.

Honorary pallbearers include: Gary and Elliot Walker, Newman Taylor, Charles Thompson and Lewis Bible.

Interment was held at the Walker Family Cemetery.

RONALD FIXICO

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Ronald D. Fixico were held May 3 at the Wesley Smith Funeral Home with the Rev Bill Oldham and Harrel D. Jones officiating.

Fixico

Ron was born July 25, 1953 to Rev. John and Mrs. Virginia Fixico.

He graduated from Muskogee High School in 1971 where he played "old time" football as a Muskogee Rougher, serving as a front lineman.

A graduate of the University of Tulsa, Ron enjoyed playing intramural sports. While at T.U., Ron was employed as a Intake Counselor at the Tulsa County Juvenile Detention Center in Sand Springs as he was seeking a degree in Criminal Justice.

During the 1980's, Ron was involved in the development of the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma and served as its Chairman.

In 1985, Ron served as a Deputy in the Office of Public Gaming. He also founded the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Commission (now known as the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association) and served as its Executive Director.

Fixico assisted the Sac and Fox Nation of Oklahoma in their economic development efforts. During the 1990's, Ron served as the Chairman of the Sac & Fox Industrial Development Commission.

Later, Ron was employed as a Sales Manager at WorldLink Gaming Corporation in Tulsa.

He was a member of the Believers Baptist Church and a member of the Sapulpa Indian Community.

Survivors include: his parents; brothers, Donald L. of Mesa, Arizona and Gerald L. Fixico of Nashville, Tennessee; sister, Jo Anna Fixico of Kalamazoo, Michigan and a niece and nephew.

Pallbearers include: Greg Allen; Wiley Butler Jr.; Larry Dudas; Charles Heron; Eugene Jack; Michael Murphy; John Pickering; Al Pulver; Shahram Shayan; Gary Vickers; Jerry Wilson; J.R. and Johnsey Wisdom.

Honorary Pallbearers include: Phillip Coon, Bob Charles, Wally Jack, Nelson and Wilbert Johnson, the Honorable Amos McNac, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and Chief Lawrence Murray, Iowa Nation of Oklahoma.

Interment was held at the South Heights Cemetery in Sapulpa with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police serving as the escort.

Gratitude

We would like to say a heart felt 'thank you' to the following for their support and encouragement during the homegoing celebration for Judson Rev. George Doyle (Bemo Church) and Elder Kelly Tiger (Hilltop Presbyterian Wewoka) for their words of comfort. To Edwen Jimboy (Creek Chapel) for conducting the wake and funeral services. Merle Berryhill and helpers (Springfield Methodist) for taking care of the seating. Pastor Wayne Harjo and Lucille (Buckeye), Molline Jackson (Walters 1st Baptist), and Elm Tree Baptist, (Tahlequah) for the beautiful music. 1st Baptist Church of Dewar for being so gracious in letting us use their facilities. To Martha Johnson and Belvin Baptist for taking care of the food, you were a blessing.

Also to the Lighthorse, Henryetta Police, and to the Creek Nation Honor Guard. To those who offered prayers and encouragement; those who brought food and flowers and sent cards. Last but not least, to Shurden Funeral Home for handling the arrangements and making a very difficult time easy. To the hundreds of you who come to pay your respects to Judson. He loved people, but most of all he loved his Lord. We saw the loving presence of God in all that was done. God bless you all.

Judson Deere family

Shop talk with Gerald

So how is the summer sports season treating you? A lot of people I know almost consider this time to be the proverbial "dog days" of the sports year. What they are really saying is that football season is over and there are just not any real sports to watch until the fall. These people of course, are the diehard pigskin fans who probably wear a helmet or hat of some type at least once a day.

Yes, there is sports after the football has been put away for a while. Of course, March Madness and the glory of college basketball has just passed us and the NBA Championships have heated up tremendously and we should see a great best of seven championship series. Eventhough the Phoenix Suns season has ended, It was good to see Canadian Steve Nash walk away with the MVP.

Personally, it would be great to see Alonzo Mourning get a championship with his team, the Miami Heat. The center from Georgetown has been battling health problems for a while and since his kidney transplant, has been taking it game by game. Then again, having Shaq doesn't hurt your chances much.

Baseball is always revving up this time of year, and you really start to appreciate the season right now as teams begin the mid-season stretch and establish themselves as perirenal potentials in the post-season.

Speaking of revving up, how about that Danica Patrick in the Indy 500. You got to hand it to the lady who made history at the Brickyards. Patrick made history by being the first female to ever lead in the historic race, which is in its 89th year, and then to overcome an engine stall in the pits and a collision that damaged a wing on the front, Patrick rode on fumes to grab a fourth place finish. Not bad for a first time start, and to finish exactly where you began in a major racing competition such as this.

Folks out in Creek country and beyond are starting to get a little better about submitting the news about those good Creek athletes out there. And that's all we want to do here, is brag about their athletic exploits on the field, and in the academic room as well.

Interesting addition to the entertaining list of sports events to this year's Creek Nation Festival is the Mushball tournament. The ball is actually that, mush, soft and easy to handle without a glove, yet heavy and restricted enough for even the hardest of hitters to knock it very far. Think of it as a glorified cantaloupe. It's also the type of game that young and old can play. It kind of reminds one of a game when everyone is just playing to have fun, and even laugh at one another.

This year's tournament is open to Church and youth groups, but my opinion is that when more people get to see how easy and fun it is to play, the mushball tournament will expand and be a featured event at next year's Creek Nation Festival.

Creek Pitcher looks to heal and get back

Tulsa World - May 22, 2005

CLEARWATER, Florida — Since signing with the Philadelphia Phillies after being drafted in the third round in 2000, right-handed pitcher Keith Bucktrot has been on a steady progression in his bid to make the major leagues.

The Claremore High alum spent one season in the developmental league in Florida, three in Class A Lakewood and Clearwater before moving up to Double-A Reading late in 2003.

In his first full season at Reading in 2004, he was 4-7 with a 4.87 earned run average.

That performance earned him an invitation to the Phillies training camp this season.

It was at training camp that Bucktrot noticed a nagging pain in his shoulder, which was later diagnosed as tendinitis in the labrum.

"Actually it was like an overnight thing," said Bucktrot. "It happened the final week of spring training. I had just come off an outing against a Triple-A club. I threw the next day soft and went to the bullpen two days later. Until then, my bullpen work had been good. I couldn't hit the corners, I shook it off and tried again the following day and couldn't throw more than four pitches."

The 24-year-old has remained at the Phillies training facility in Florida and should see his first throwing action within the week with Class-A Clearwater.

"Keith threw in the bullpen on Friday," said Mike Arbuckle, the Phillies director of player development. "After he's had a few starts with Clearwater, hopefully we can move him to Double A Reading." Arbuckle admitted Bucktrot will be watched closely.

Bucktrot

"We want to get him healthy and get him going," said Arbuckle. "This is an important year for Keith. He had made good progress, but he has leveled off a little the last 18 months. He needs to pick it up again."

Bucktrot is equally anxious to get going. Bucktrot stays in touch with current Claremore Coach Matt Murray and knew within minutes of the Zebras' 1-0 win over Bishop Kelley in the Class 5A state title game last week.

"Coach Murray called me after the game," said Bucktrot. "I worked with some of those guys last year, so it was neat to *help out. I'll keep working* with the high school guys."

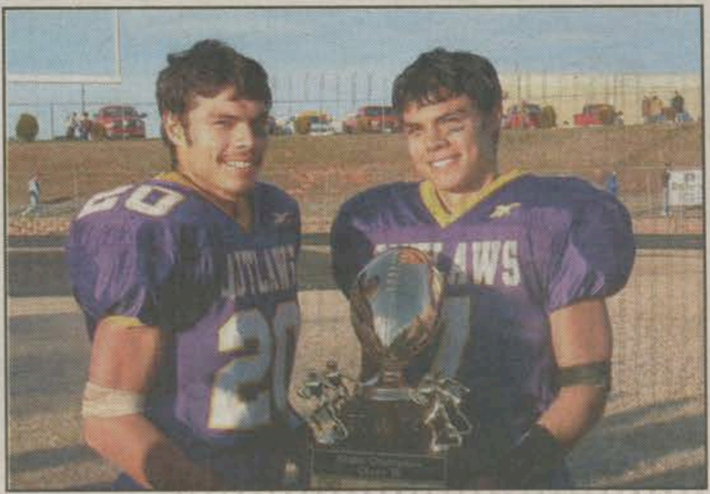
For more information about Bucktrot visit www.threshersbaseball.com

Bencoma Boys headed to the Oil Bowl

WELEETKA — Those Bencoma Boys are at it again. After winning two Oklahoma Class B State Football Championships, Rodney and William take their show on the road to Wichita Falls, Texas. The Creek brothers will play in the exclusive High School All-Star game called the "Oil Bowl" on June 18.

This is the 68th year for the prep competition which pits the best from Oklahoma against Texas. This is also the first year that athletes from a Class-B school will participate.

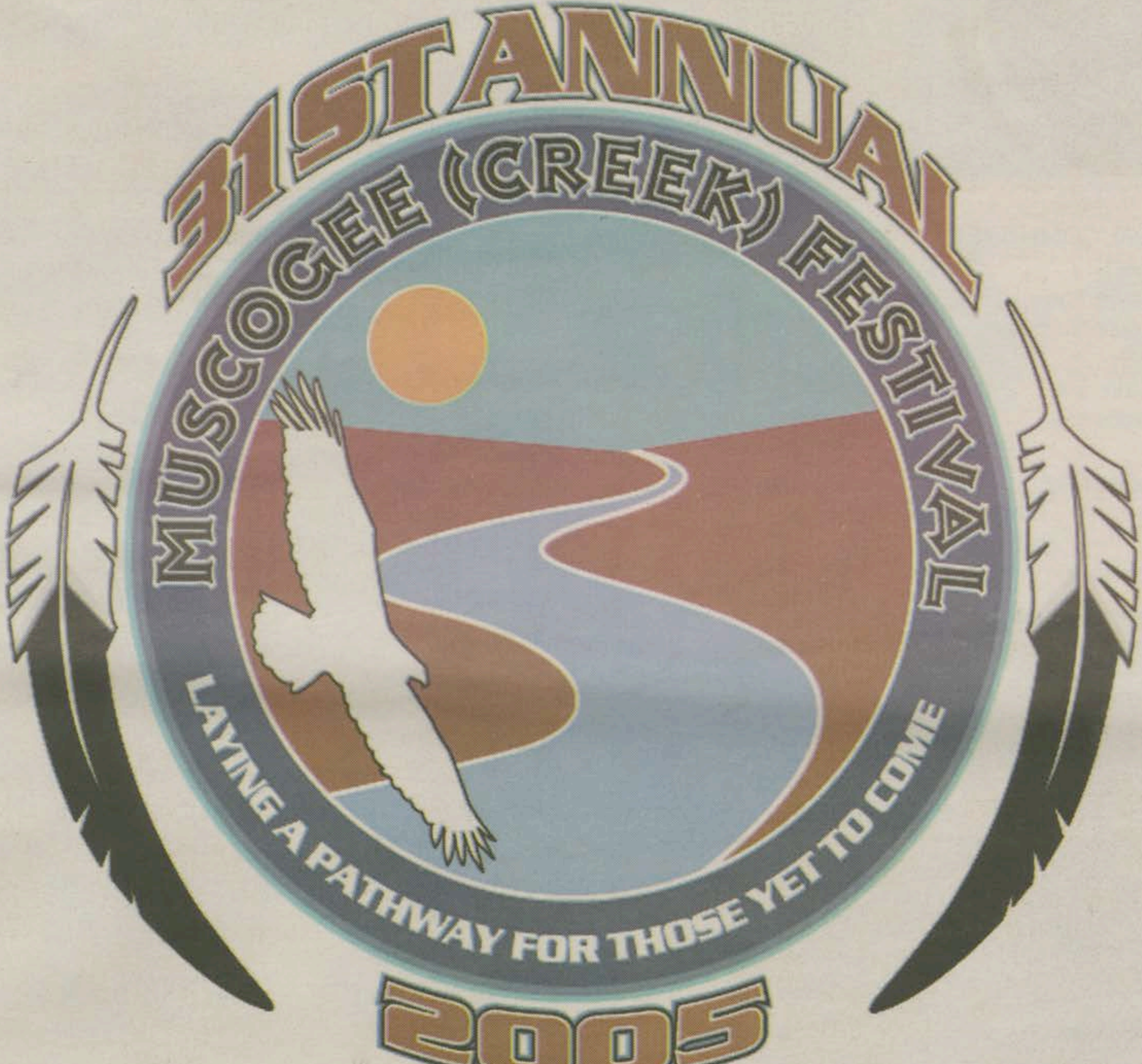
Rodney and William had a stellar year after bringing the class-B school instant notereity by winning State Championships in two of the last three years.


Rodney and William Bencoma

In past years, such notable Oklahoma athletes as Jason White, Rashaun Woods, R.W. McQuarters, Tinker Owens, Jay Wilkerson and Steve Owens, all of whom have played played for either Oklahoma State University or the University of Oklahoma, played in the "Oil Bowl."

Texas won last year's contest by a score of 40 to 10. Texas leads the long running series by a count of 41-17-1.

Oklahoma last won in 2003 by a score of 24-21.


31ST ANNUAL
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) FESTIVAL
LAYING A PATHWAY FOR THOSE YET TO COME
2005

JUNE 3 - 4, JUNE 10 - 11 & JUNE 16 - 19
2005

A message from the Creek Festival Committee

We would like to take a moment to welcome everyone to the 31st Annual Creek Festival — "Laying A Pathway For Those Yet To Come." Our committee, along with countless tribal employees and volunteers, have worked hard to provide you a family oriented event filled with entertainment, strong competition, and cultural enrichment.

Renovations to the Claude Cox Omniplex will be completed in time for this year's festival.

- The softball fields, a staple of our annual festival, has undergone many changes. Four new awning structures have been built over the southern and northern most bleachers. The dugouts have been raised and equipped with metal roofing, and now contain concrete flooring. New scoreboards have been erected and are fully functional.
- Arts & crafts and food vendor booths have been redesigned and equipped with new electrical wiring and hookups to better serve our visitors.
- Our entertainment stage has a newly constructed flooring and more easily accessible ramp and walkway for this year's and future entertainers.
- The rodeo arena now showcases a new look announcer's stand and a high-quality sound system.
- Finally, the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has been working around the clock to complete the dome shaped activities center building, located near the southern entrance of the Claude Cox Omniplex.

New to this year's festival is: the men's and women's slow pitch softball tournament; adult and youth church mushball tournament; parade; junior rodeo; living legends ceremony; and a free children's carnival. Also, the Okmulgee County Family YMCA, located on 106 W. 13, will be offering free admission to their waterpark for our tribal citizens on Friday, June 17 and Saturday June 18. All that is required is proof of tribal enrollment.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's festival. We are confident this year will be the best ever!

Mvto!

Lucas Taylor
Creek Festival Chairman

CREEK FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Perry Anderson
Member

Bob Arrington
Member

Jimmy Basquez
Member

Victor Bear
Member

Phil Booker
Member

Shelia Buckley
Secretary/Treasurer

Ace Buckner
Member

Mike Flud
Member

Carmin Gore
Vice-Chair

Thompson Gouge
Member

Lucas Taylor
Chairman

Pam Walls
Member

Dean Williams
Member

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Saturday, June 11th

10:00am - 4:00pm

Giant Slide

Arcade Arena

Claude Cox Omniplex

Lil" Squirt Waterslide

FREE!!

Danny Duh Clown

FREE!!

Jupiter Jump

A fun filled day of activities for the children. Games for all ages. Children can play all games for FREE.

FREE ADMISSION TO YMCA WATER PARK FOR JUNIOR OLYMPICS PARTICIPANTS
FOR FREE ADMISSION YOU MUST SHOW PROOF OF TRIBAL ENROLLMENT
JUNE 17 & 18 ONLY!

HEALTH FAIR

Saturday, June 18th

9:30am -1:30pm

Danny Duh Clown

Snowcones

Popcorn

Creek Nation Omniplex

Finger Printing

Face Painting

Balloons

The Health Fair is a FREE event for everyone. There will be many different organizations giving out health and safety information and free goodies.

A FREE CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 17TH & 18TH LOCATED AT THE OMNIPLEX NORTH OF THE CONCERT STAGE.

31st Annual Creek

“Laying A Pathway F

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Scholarship Pageant

The Miss and Junior Miss Mvskoke Creek Nation Scholarship Pageant was held June 3rd at 7 p.m. in Covelle Hall at the OSU/Okmulgee Extension Campus.

GREAT SEAL OF THE
MUSCOGEE

Five contestants competed for the Miss Mvskoke crown and three contestants competed for the Junior Miss title. Contestants were judged in the areas of: poise; personality; dress; talent; speech; and impromptu questions.

After the points were tabulated, Miss Mvskoke Nation Princess Victoria Mills crowned Katie Burden as the 2005-2006 Miss Mvskoke Nation Princess. Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation Princess Alyssa Bear crowned Cherie Cassaday as the 2005-2006 Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation Princess.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

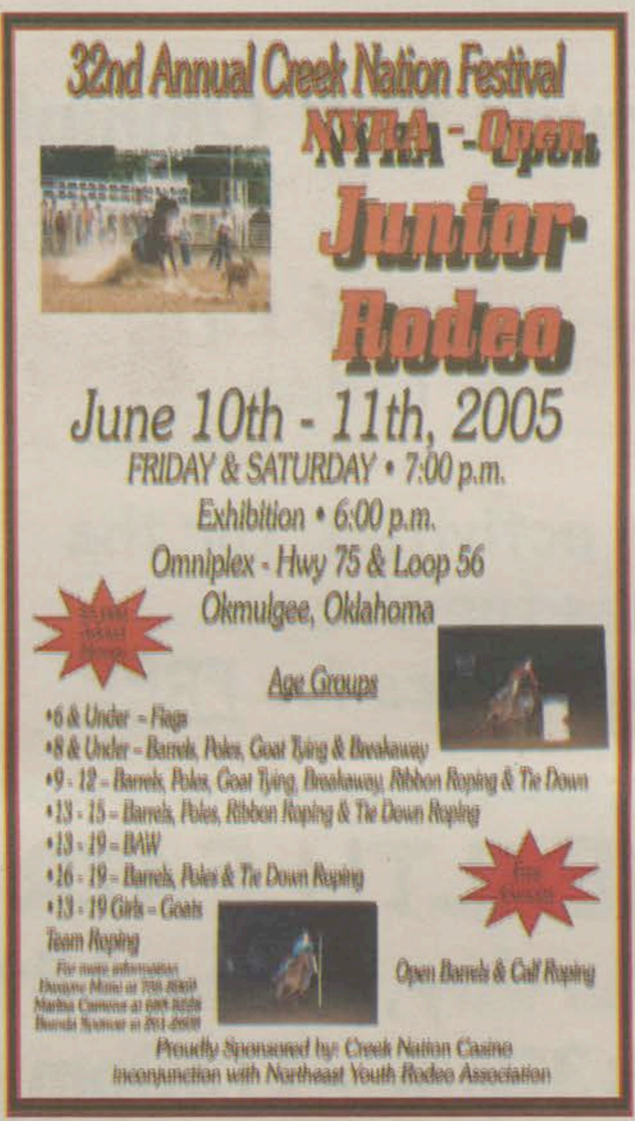
Slow Pitch Softball

New to the Creek Festival is the men's and women's slow pitch softball tournament. Co-ed tournament play is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 10 at the Claude Cox Omniplex. The men's and women's will begin at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, June 11, with finals scheduled around 1 p.m. Co-ed will continue on Saturday afternoon.

All participants must be from a federally recognized tribe. Balls will be provided for tournament play. Prizes will be awarded for the top four teams, MVP's, all-tournament team, golden glove and home run derby. The home run derby is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m.

Over thirty teams, from as far as Hollywood, Florida, will be vying for this year's championship.

For further information, contact Victor Bear at (918) 261-2315.



32nd Annual Creek Nation Festival

NYRA - Open

Junior Rodeo

June 10th - 11th, 2005

FRIDAY & SATURDAY • 7:00 p.m.

Exhibition • 6:00 p.m.

Omniplex - Hwy 75 & Loop 56

Okmulgee, Oklahoma

Age Groups

- 6 & Under = Flags
- 8 & Under = Barrels, Poles, Goat Tying & Breakaway
- 9 - 12 = Barrels, Poles, Goat Tying, Breakaway, Ribbon Roping & Tie Down
- 13 - 15 = Barrels, Poles, Ribbon Roping & Tie Down Roping
- 13 - 19 = BAW
- 16 - 19 = Barrels, Poles & Tie Down Roping
- 13 - 19 Girls = Goats

Team Roping

For more information
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Open Barrels & Calf Roping

Proudly Sponsored by: Creek Nation Casino
inconjunction with Northeast Youth Rodeo Association

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

Stompdance

This marks the second year that Tallahassee Wykokaye Ceremonial Ground will be hosting a Stomp Dance. Last year's inaugural event was very well attended.

A dinner and fellowship will be held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with the dancing to follow. The dinner will be catered by Charlie's Chicken. The stompdance will take place at the Claude Cox Omniplex near the entertainment stage. Everyone is invited.

Drawings will be held for pendleton chairs, ballsticks and cans. For more information, contact David Proctor at (918) 756-8504.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Junior Olympics

The Junior Olympics will begin at 9:00 a.m., Friday June 17 at Harmon Stadium.

The Olympics offer Indian youth ages six to 15 the opportunity to compete in track events. The events for ages 6 - 7 are a 30 meter dash, 50 meter dash, 400 meter relay, and softball throw. For ages 8 - 9 there is a 50 meter dash, 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter relay, and a softball throw. For ages 10 - 11 there is a 50 meter dash, 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter relay, and a hoop shoot. For ages 12 - 13 there is a 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash, 400 meter relay, hoop shoot, and a long jump. For ages 14 - 15 there is a 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash, 400 meter relay, 1 mile run, hoop shoot, and long jump.

Volunteers are needed for this event. For more information, contact Dawn Edwards at (918) 732-7869.

Senior Day Activities

Senior activities will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Elderly Housing Center with bingo, arts and craft booths, quilt show, horseshoes and many more exciting things to do. Also, Euchee Boarding School will have its annual reunion.

For more information, contact Donna Martin (918)732-7962.

Golf Tournament

The 31st Annual Festival Golf Tournament will kick off June 17 at Fountain Head Golf Course beginning at 1 p.m. with a Scramble. The tournament will continue Saturday and Sunday beginning at 8:00 a.m.

For more information, contact Perry Anderson (918) 756-8700, Bret Hayes (918) 681-0918 or Bert Robison (918) 689-2547.

3 on 3 18 yrs & under Basketball Tournament

The 3 on 3 18 yrs & under Basketball Tournament will be at the Claude Cox Omniplex starting Friday June 17 at 5:00 p.m. All participants must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe and provide a CDIB or enrollment card.

Twenty-five to thirty teams have entered this year's tourna-

Festival & Rodeo

r Those Yet To Come”

ment. Teams from as far as Stillwater will compete in a double elimination format for the championship title.

For more information, contact Tamara Berryhill at (800) 219-9458, ext. 404 or Celesta Johnson at (800) 219-9458, ext 342.

Men and Women's Fast Pitch Tournament

The Men's and Women's Fast Pitch Tournament will begin Friday, June 17 at 6 p.m. at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

The Florida Seminoles return this year to defend their men's championship title. Great improvements have been made to the fields, dug outs and back stops, elevating the Claude Cox Omniplex as one of the premier facilities in the state..

Tournament play will continue on Saturday and Sunday beginning at 8:30 a.m.

For more information, contact Dean Williams at (918) 830-2902.

Gospel Singing

A Gospel singing is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. in the OSU Extension Building at the Okmulgee County Fair Grounds.

This year's singing will feature local Native American Gospel singers, such as Taylor Osborn, Gospel Lights and many more for your enjoyment. There will be great praise and worship throughout the night.

Dinner will be provided on a first come first serve basis, with a two piece chicken dinner provided by Charlie's Chicken. Door Prizes will be given away. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information, contact Thompson “Geebon” Gouge at (918) 732-7711.

Creek Hymn Singing

Festival Creek Hymn Singing will take place on Friday & Saturday, Dinner will be served from 4-6 at the community Center and the Singing will begin 7:00 p.m. at Covell Hall. Members of Native Praise will be in attendance as well as the honor guard will post colors. For more information, contact Mike Coon at (918) 759-8554.

31st Annual All Indian Rodeo

There will be an All Indian Rodeo June 17th, 7:00 p.m. and 18th, 10:00 a.m. Events include barrels, bull riding, Steer Wrestling, Calf Roping, Bare Back, Saddle Bronc, team roping, Jr steer riding and ladies breakaway. Prizes for the junior events is $200 added, senior events $1,000 added , and for the team roping $2,000 added. Entry fees accepted by 5:30 p.m. Friday, June 17.

For more information, contact Bob Arrington at (918) 732-7650 or visit www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Entertainment

The concerts are scheduled to begin on Friday, June 17 at 6:00 p.m. Line up starts at 5:00 p.m.

Brandon Jenkins was recently signed to a national distribution deal with **Sony/Red**, he is making his presence known with his latest hit single, **“The Whole World's Gone Crazy”**. Being true to himself has proved successful. Jenkins has built a large and loyal following of fans.

Indigenous, the quartet of Dakota Sioux Indian family members—brothers Mato and Pte, their sister Wanbdi, and their cousin Horse—transcends its early influences and brings its hard-rocking, blues-based music to a new peak of power and expressiveness.

Junior Brown's music combines the soul of country and the spirit of rock n' roll. There's usually a wide-eyed look accompanying one who witnesses Junior's unique instrumental prowess. Junior invented his own guitar, one that combines the standard 6-string guitar and the steel guitar. He calls it the “guit-steel.”

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Indian Arts Festival

Saturday June 18 adults can attend a juried traditional art competition and sale at the Creek Council House Museum in downtown Okmulgee.

Traditional arts will be provided for children. A Pow Wow and Stomp dance demonstration will be scheduled through the day in conjunction with the festival parade.

For further information, contact the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756–2324.

5k Run/Walk

A 5k run/walk will begin at 8:00 a.m. starting at the Muscogee Nation Complex. Entry fee is $15 before June 18 and $20 on race day with t-shirt or $10 fee without t-shirt.

For more information, contact Lila Garrett at (918) 732-7869.

Festival Parade

With over 40 entries, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Parade seems destine for success. The parade will begin at 12:30 p.m. in downtown Okmulgee. The parade will begin at the Intersection of 6th and Alabama traveling east and will end on 6th and Porter.

This years categories included, best float, best marching band and best Indian car. Third place will go home with $100 and a trophy, 2nd place will receive $300 and a trophy and 1st place will receive $500 and a trophy.

For more information, contact Irene Culley (918) 756-9911, ext. 334.

Volleyball Tournament

The Volleyball tournament will be held at the Claude Cox Omniplex beginning at 9:00 a.m. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place will be awarded.

Entry deadline is June 10. For more information, contact Christine Denny at (918) 296-3331.

Church Adult/Youth Mushball Tournament

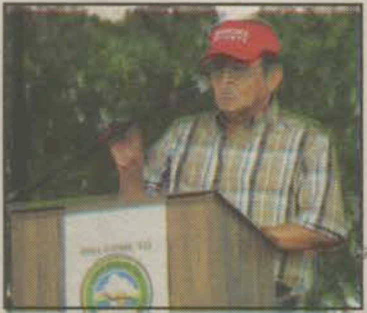
New to this year's festival is the Mushball tournament, which is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be given.

For more information contact Victor Bear at (918) 261-2315.

Living Legends Ceremony

Principal Chief Ellis address and the Living Legends ceremony is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. at the concert stage.

After the ceremony, a special presentation will be held in order to honor Creek citizen and artist Dana Tiger.



For more information, contact Ruth Bible at (918) 732–7642 or Barney Ingram at (918)756-3571.

For a complete list of festival activities or to download entry forms, visit www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

CREEK FESTIVAL SHUTTLE SERVICE

In the 2004 October issue of the MNN, a featured article was ran on the newly formed Transit Authority for the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The system was based on a survey form that evaluated the need of the Indian communities and individuals within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Nation.

Initial plans for the Transit Authority included the construction of a bus terminal, the purchase of several buses, and the establishment of regular routes from community centers to the main tribal complex and points beyond.

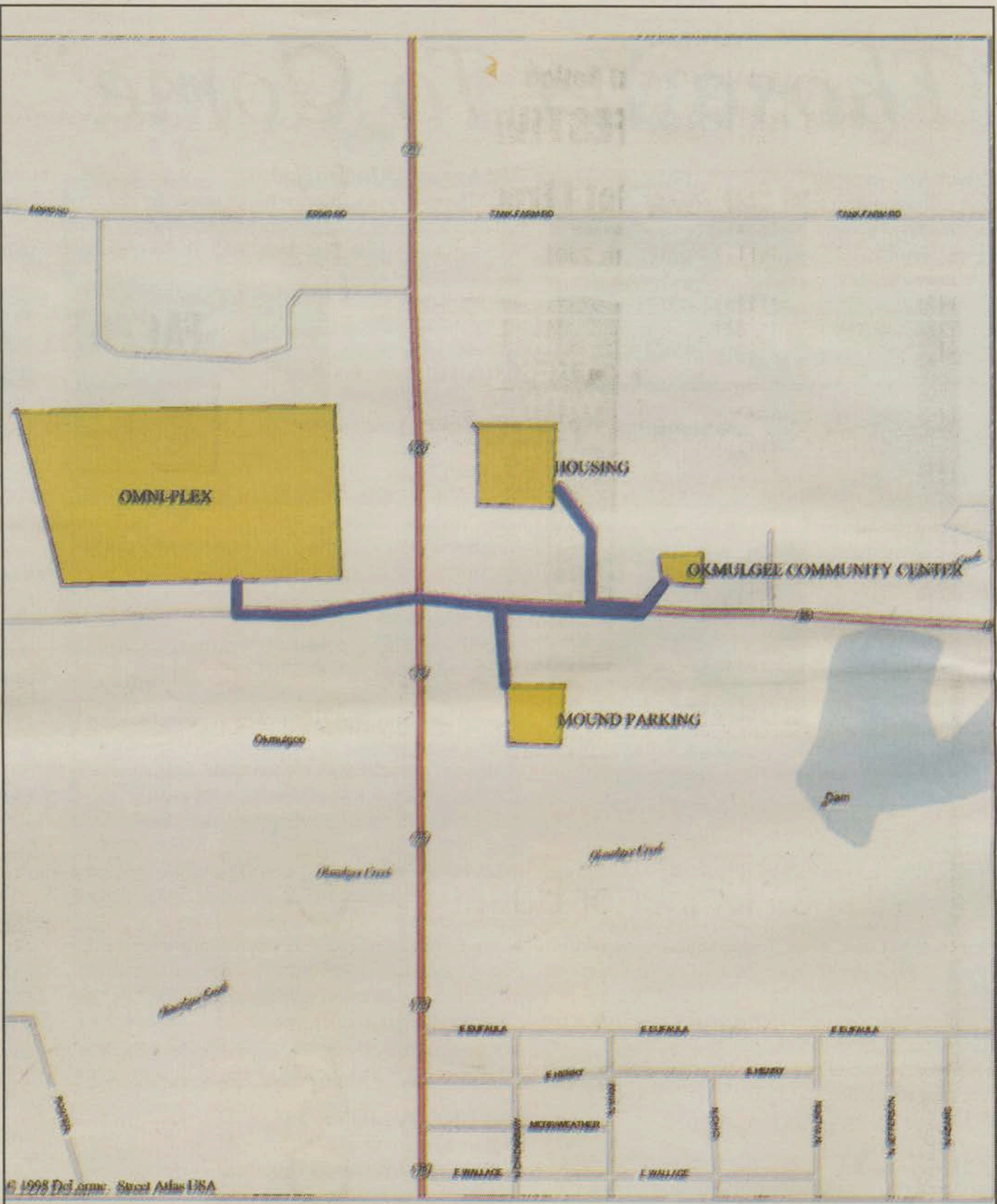
"This is an essential, ongoing program that will insure safe, economical, and greater access to areas of importance to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," said Chief Ellis.

The Transit Authority has recently purchased some buses and are awaiting the delivery of the buses.

Because of the increasing attendance, addition of new events, and quality of entertainment, the available space for parking continues to decrease. However, sufficient amounts of parking space is available at the Housing Authority and Mound building.

The Transit Authority has devised a shuttle route in order to handle the increasing number of participants for this year's festival. The route will include stops at the Housing Authority parking lot, Okmulgee Indian Community Center parking lot, Mound building parking lot, and the Claude Cox Omniplex. The shuttle will run from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, June 18 and Sunday, June 19. The route will run every 15 minutes.

Volunteers are needed for bus drivers. For more information or to volunteer as a driver, contact Ben Chaney at (918) 752-3252 or Christine Rogers at (918) 752-3217.



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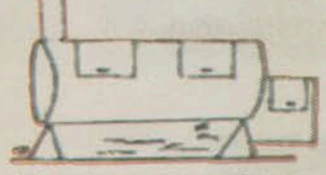

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Executive Office

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Gaming

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Creek ball player part of sports documentary

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Muscogee Nation News

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Second Chief returns from southeastern homeland

ALABAMA — A trip back to the ancestrial homelands of a Nation is special for any Tribal citizen. After all, the realization of traveling to an actual place and time that helped establish your family's lives and is partially responsible for your very own is quite memorable.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill recently did just that, making a historic trip to the southeastern United States. The Tribal Mounds in Alabama as well the Horseshoe Bend Military Park in Alabama were some of the areas Berryhill made special pilgrimmages to recently. Other places included Fort Jackson and Fort Tulouse, also in Alabama.

The National Park Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior now maintain the Horseshoe Bend area which is included on the National Register of Historic Places as well as a National Military Park.

The site of Horseshoe Bend will forever remain in Creek lore of where the historic battle whose unfortunate outcome would eventually lead to the forced march of the Muscogee (Creek) Tribe to present day Oklahoma as well as to a new way of life.

Upon arriving at the majestic areas that encompasses over two thousand acres, the Second Chief felt compelled to speak his native language and revere the moment, place, and time.

"I'm just humbled to be here," said Berryhill. "To be in the homeland of our Creek people, be

please see **HOMELAND**..., page 4

Tribe purchases new buses for Transit Program

ESTE CATE
ESCONEC
918-

Pictured above with one of the four new buses purchased for the Transit Authority is, from left to right, Della Cherry, Director of Community Services, Jack Chaney, Federal Roads, Chief A.D. Ellis, Ben Chaney, Transportation Manager and Michael Flud, Chief of Staff. The new system is expected to be fully functional and carrying passengers by the first of August. Schedules and pick up points are being developed and will be published soon.

Chief files legal petition against National Council

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis has filed a petition against the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council. The suit was filed in Tribal Supreme Court on June 30.

According to Chief Ellis, the reason he went to the Supreme Court is because it concerns constitutional issues about the three branches of government.

"We knew it was constitutional issues and we wanted to specify the duties of the three branches of government – legislative, executive and judicial," Ellis said.

Chief Ellis mentioned that he has told the Council he sees the action as a move to streamline this government, to move things quicker. "We are getting bogged down and I believe this is going to help everybody," said Chief Ellis.

Chief Ellis understands the magnitude of the legal matter and how some may mis-interpret the action as hostile or personal, but the Muscogee (Creek) leader only wants tribal citizens to know that it is a decision meant for a positive result for everyone. "I believe this is going to be a chance to find out actually what our duties are and what we can and can't do to move the Nation forward."

By press time, no court dates have been scheduled. (For a complete review of the petition, please see page 5).

Impressed with Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Pageants

Editor:

Honorable Chief Ellis and Honorable Second Chief Berryhill, I want to tell you both how nice it was to meet you and what a wonderful experience I had judging the Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Pageants this weekend. Having not been to these particular pageants before, I was very impressed with the exemplary way that the pageants were coordinated by and the team approach used by Alice Coe, Jeri Brandon, Virginia Thomas, Cynthia Coachman and the countless other Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees and volunteers. It is obvious that a lot of planning and work went into these events and it shows. I've seen enough of the pageant scene on a local and state level to recognize a top-drawer operation when I see one.

It is quite evident to me that family and community play a very important and treasured role within the Creek culture. The support systems you have in place are impressive to see. Without question, I know that you both must be very proud to represent your people.

Edward E. Rogers, Director of Volunteers
Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa
Phone: (918) 382-1292
E-mail: erogers@ihcrc.org

Expression of thanks

Editor:

Thank you so very much for the Spotlight article "Creek Evangelist is a servant to the people." Harry Long was a part of a group of Creeks who met once a month in Phoenix for several years and who contributed to Haskell Institute on an annual basis. I was part of that group 20 years ago, during then I was a Counselor at Mesa Community College.

Harry Long also tried to teach us the Creek language, although I'm sorry that I didn't learn very much. Part of the group sang church hymns in Creek language and made some recordings.

I thought that Harry Long was an employee of the United Methodist Church, although I did not see that mentioned in your article. Regardless of his denomination, he is a fine example of a Christian and I am happy to have been the recipient of some of his teachings.

It was so good to read about him in your publication.

Billie Jane McIntosh, Flagstaff, AZ

Expression of appreciation

Editor:

On behalf of the members of the Tallahassee (Wvkokaye) Ceremonial Ground, I wish to express my appreciation to Okmulgee Council Representative Rita Williams and the National Council for their assistance in completing the Ground's shower and bathroom building.

Thanks to Steve Bighorse and the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise who did the work on the renovations. Asi and his crew did a great job. For the grounds that may be considering a building, request MNBE, they will complete the job in no time.

Thanks again Rita and members of the National Council for all of your hard work in assisting all the grounds.

David J. Proctor, Mekko
Tallahassee (Wvkokaye) Ceremonial Ground

Members express appreciation

Editor:

On behalf of the members of the Tallahassee (Wvkokaye) Ceremonial Ground, I wish to express our appreciation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Creek Nation Festival Committee in allowing us to host the second annual stompdance held at the Omniplex on June 16, 2005. It was an honor and a privilege to be a part of the 31st Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival.

We had a large turn out for the evening meal which fed approximately 375 people. Thanks to Stoney and the crew at Charlie's Chicken, they did a great job. Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and a few Council Representatives were present during the supper and dance. Chief Ellis greeted the gathering of people and welcomed them to the opening of the Festival. The Muscogee (Creek) Princesses were also in attendance and recognized. We would like to thank the Pageant Committee for scheduling a visit for this event.

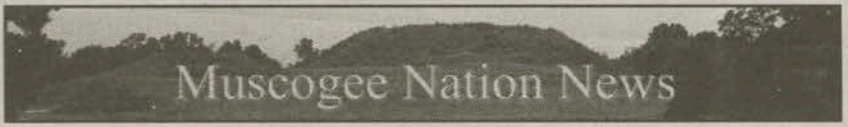
The stomp dance that followed the meal also had a large gathering of friends, relatives and visitors. Several Ceremonial grounds were represented. We also had our friends from White Oak and Little Axe and other tribes join in the dance. Good singing and shell shaking went out until 11:30 p.m. or so. Chief Ellis, Claude Sumner, Mr. Flud and Council members danced a few rounds. We are going to have Chief Ellis leading before the summer is over. Thank you to all our friends from the grounds that participated and supported the dance, without our friends the dance would not have been as good as it turned out. I would also like to thank our friends who provided the articles for the raffle.

A special thank you goes out to my family, our ground members and friends for their hard work before and after the dance.

A successful event like the stomp dance takes the cooperation and hard work from a lot of different people. I hope the dance will continue to be a part of the festival. Thank you to all the grounds, I know you are getting ready for Green Corn. Thanks again to the Festival Committee for your support.

In closing, I want to thank the Creator, for all his guidance. He has given us the opportunity to gather together, to enjoy another day of fellowship with friends and to continue our traditions to pass on to those yet to come.

David J. Proctor, Mekko
Tallahassee (Wvkokaye) Ceremonial Ground



Members of the following two associations:

NAJA
Native American Journalist Association

NAPP
The National Association of Photoshop Professionals

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Congratulations to all Creeks who enjoyed the 31st Annual Creek Nation Festival.

Each year seems better than the last. Most impressive was the Festival parade thru downtown Okmulgee. I expected to see a few floats and was shocked to see more then fifty; churches, ceremonial grounds, students and employees made the parade a huge success the first year. One person compared the Friday and Saturday night crowd to the Tulsa fair midway. I want to thank all the volunteers who worked many hours to produce this great festival. Without employee's like these our Tribal leaders could do nothing. Great job folks from the Chief's office.

Construction is going on everywhere. Now under construction is the Coweta Clinic, Sprung Building, Tulsa Casino Expansion, New Head Start Building, Transit Building, Okemah, Duck Creek, Eufaula casino expansion, OPG office renovation, big Okmulgee office expansion, etc. Growth is everywhere in the nation except the New Tulsa casino. This legislation is still stopped in the national council. I want to remind everyone in the west coast area about myself, staff and managers going to be in west Hollywood July 21st - 23rd.

A large meeting will take place Saturday all day and we'll get to know everyone. Please take time to attend and we will continue to include the California creeks as a vital part of our nation. A great big congratulations to our new Living Legends. **Harry Long**, **R. Perry Beaver**, **Hepsey Gilroy** and **Amos McNac**. It was such an honor for me to present these legends with their awards. Also, **Bob Arrington** was awarded a plaque declaring "Bob Arrington Rodeo day" during this year's 32nd Annual Rodeo. We now have a new Lighthorse Chief of Police, **Mr. Jack Shackleford**. Congratulations Jack and good luck on your new job.

Quote of the Month: *"Always listen to experts, they'll tell you what can't be done and why. Then do it."*

Second opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

Over this past weekend, our Nation Celebrated its Independence Day. My son and his wife's family came to my house to celebrate by popping firecrackers. I don't really feel that they were popping firecrackers to celebrate Independence Day, but it was something to do as an annual family event. Much like some people do on Sunday, simply because it's Sunday and their family has done this for years.

On August 2, 1975, the founding fathers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation signed into law our Constitution. On that very auspicious day, a new Nation within a Nation was reborn. When the final battle of the Creeks took place at Horseshoe Bend, this began the fruits of removal. Some people call this time, "migration". To me, only animals migrate. The Constitution established three separate branches of government. The Legislative, Judicial and Executive were created. This government was to be elected by the people.

Like any other Nation, we have grown from a small one room school house to what you see today. When the Creek Nation was removed to Oklahoma, the citizens of the former Confederacy no longer existed as a federally recognized group of people. What, then, existed that made so many of us say that we were Creeks? There was no government to point to. There was no Constitution to point to.

The only things that existed before the Constitution signed on August 2, 1975 were churches and ceremonial grounds. How many of you that attend church remember the annual conferences, associations and conventions? Before the huge campgrounds were erected, the churches met at different churches. I remember when they had the annual conference at New Town. That year, we must have had a monsoon because when you drove down Eufaula Street west of Okmulgee and turned onto the road to New Town, you couldn't get through because the road was flooded over. Willie Sampson had a flat bed truck and transported people through the waters to what became an island at New Town. Still there were many tents erected where people were camping. The camp houses were all a bustle with preparing meals three times each day for a week.

They had an arbor made of lumber and they erected a brush arbor. The main arbor was where the adults and elders met. The brush arbor was for the youth. Only Creek was spoken at the main arbor. The youth were spoken to in English. Sometimes they would ask one of the Creek speaking preacher to go and speak to the youth. Most of them would decline because they couldn't speak very good English.

No one had CDIB's or Tribal Membership card, but were all welcomed to attend. Camp houses encircled the church and each camp was given a number and people attending were issued tickets that had numbers on it and the day that camp was serving and everyone had to go to the camp number that was assigned to them on the ticket. When you got to the door, there was someone there to check your ticket and punch a hole in it. The main question back then was, "who's serving ice tea?" They didn't have crushed ice; they had block ice and kept it in an "ice box". Tea leaves were boiled to make the tea.

I know that the Ceremonial Grounds always, and still do, look forward to their annual Green Corn Dance. Back then, if you didn't get there early enough, you were in for a walk because cars were all over the place. The dance circle was huge because of all the people and they stayed in tents also. The language of the day was all Creek. Every now and then, you would hear one of the men say, "let's dance before it rains".

Most of us back then had attended one of the Boarding Schools and we would always look forward to one of the events to meet our old school mates. Back then, there were a lot of fluent Creek speakers. We thought they would be here forever, but now most of them are gone. The thought of having a new Nation excited everyone because they thought that their needs would be met. Our people had been surveyed and surveyed, but nothing was happening. I remember when they came and asked my parents questions concerning a new housing program. They were all excited, but they didn't get to live in one until they were in their seventies. They were fortunate because if we used today's standards, they wouldn't qualify because they are on social security.

Here's a rather startling statistic. The following information was provided to me by the Citizenship Board on how many full bloods were enrolled within the past ten years: 1995 – 11, 1996 – 8, 1997 – 12, 1998 – 7, 1999 – 14, 2000 – 3, 2001 – 6, 2002 – 4, 2003 – 9, 2004 – 2, and 2005 – 3. The grand total for these years is 79 and our present enrolled citizenry is 58,904. *Mvto.*

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the May 23, special session.

May 23, Special session

Absent were: **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee District; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee District; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; and **Cherrah Ridge Quiett**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Nancy Watson, Okfuskee district arrived during executive session;

In order of business the Council:

council went into executive session then adjourned.

May 31, Emergency session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa.

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Swearing in of new council member **Paula Willits**, Tulsa District;

representatives: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce arrived during committee as a whole;

In order of business the Council:

• approved (20-0-0) TR 05-092, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a temporary permit with B & B Fireworks for the operation of a temporary fireworks sales establishment on tribal trust land;

representative **Golden** arrived before vote count was taken;

• approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 05-097, amending MCNCA Title 16, §§4-105, 106.B. and 109 to clarify police officer education requirements;

• approved (19-1-1) NCA 05-125, authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen with costs of living associated with an internship;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner.

June 10, Special session

Absent were: **Anthony Notaro**, McIntosh; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Ridge-Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa;

Second Speaker **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

council went into executive session then adjourned.

June 10, emergency session

Absent were: **Anthony Notaro**, McIntosh; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Ridge-Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa;

Second Speaker **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

• approved as amended (11-6-1) TR 05-079, confirming **Jack S. Shackelford** as the Chief of the Lighthorse Administration;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; and **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

abstain were: **Willits**, Tulsa;

K. Johnson was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• postponed (11-6-0) TR 05-084, authorizing the Principal Chief to enter into a financing agreement with JP Morgan Chase, N.A. to temporarily fund the construction of the new casino at Riverside Drive until permanent financing can be obtained;

voting no were: **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

K. Johnson was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (16-1-0) NCA 05-122, authorizing a special appropriation to assist a tribal member in extreme need of emergency aid;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee;

representatives **McIntosh**, **Nichols**, **Pickering**, and **Harjo** had left at 10:00 p.m.

Homeland

continued from page 1

standing on a spot that was created thousands of years ago...and I can't really express how I really feel, I'm just humbled."

The Second Chief later mentioned that he was also impressed with how tribal members would work together and how they sweated the details, in design and craftsmanship in the areas they chose to live. Berryhill went on to commend how the Muscogee Fore Fathers created special building components to build the homes and erect the buildings they worked and worshipped in. Impressives structures such as temples that were sometimes erected over 60 feet in the air with bases often as wide as 3 acres. Earthen materials such as clay, cane, and wood were creatively innovated to make these structures. How the structures were solid like modern day bricks of homes today and how they were designed to stay cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Berryhill also mentioned the people used scientifically based astronomy in planning yearly calendars and observance of special seasons. "I just felt like I could have lived there," said Berryhill when he first toured the encampments and took a poke at how modern society is totally wrong in their views of Native Americans. "With how we lived and what we accomplished," I think the term 'uncivilized' applied to other people, not us!" exclaimed Berryhill.

The 2nd Chief also commented on how important tools such as the Atlatl (pronounced AT-LAT-UL) was really a progressive symbol of technology. The creation, which could be used as a weapon also, accelerated a dart at the specified target. Invented thousands of years before the bow and arrow, the Atlatl used projectionary force, not uncommon from the theory that is used in the modern creation of NASA space shuttles.

Berryhill said he was also proud of how tribal members worked together for the betterment of the common cause which was to preserve a way of life and to keep families safe. Especially in times of battle, when key military theatres such as Horseshoe Bend were unfolding. "It's a beautiful place now," said Berryhill when referring to the National Park, "but it was terrible then."

Berryhill also wants to make sure that so called historians and others are informed correctly of the battle mentality of the Muscogee warriors back then. "For sure, our warriors did not run, or back away from anyone! They had their faces painted, one side was red and the other was black. The red represented war, and the black was for death, both colors meant that they were prepared to face both."

Although history's end results had the Muscogee (Creek) tribe moving westward, the 2nd Chief also sees how the creator's hand still played a unique part. "We wouldn't be in Oklahoma, we wouldn't be doing a lot of the things we are doing now. God always puts us in the right place at the right time. We just have to know that its his plan, whatever it is, it's going to be good."

The 2nd Chief was joined by Creek Council House Museum Curator Ted Isham.

In the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

A. D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,
Plaintiff

v.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
National Council,
Defendant

Petition

The Plaintiff, A.D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation ("Plaintiff") States:

1. Plaintiff is the duly elected Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, all executive power and authority of the Nation is vested in the office of the Principal Chief.

2. Defendant is the duly elected Muscogee (Creek) National Council ("Defendant" or "National Council"). Pursuant to Article VI of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the legislative power and authority of the Nation is vested in the National Council.

3. This Court is vested with original jurisdiction to determine Constitutional questions and inherent jurisdiction to resolve disputes between the branches of government.

4. Defendant has taken actions which exceeds its legislative power and authority and infringe upon, interfere with, and usurp Plaintiff's executive power and authority in violation of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the doctrine of separation of powers. Those actions include, but are not limited to, the following:

A. By correspondence dated April 27, 2005, Defendant directed Plaintiff to conduct an evaluation on Claude Sumner, Executive Director. The Executive Director is an officer of the Executive Branch.

B. Plaintiff has called extraordinary sessions of the National Council pursuant to Article V § 4 of the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the National Council. At one or more of these extraordinary sessions, the National Council changed the agenda and/or deleted agenda items set by Plaintiff for consideration, and modified the rules of voting on legislation.

C. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, Title 30 §§3-104, 8-101 and 8-102 purport to subject Plaintiff and all Executive Branch officers and employees to be summoned, questioned and punished at the will of Defendant, with or without subpoena.

D. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, Title 16 §4-105 purports to subject Lighthorse Administration policies and procedures to the approval of Defendant. The Lighthorse Administration is part of the Executive Branch.

E. TR 05-091 purports to engage legal services on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation but retain control, direction and supervision of the contract with Defendant.

5. Plaintiff is entitled to a declaratory judgment against the Defendant finding that all executive authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is vested in the office of the Principal Chief and specifically:

A. Defendant has no power or authority to direct Plaintiff to take any action with regard to Executive Branch officers or employees.

B. Defendant must address, without change or deletion, the agenda of the Principal Chief at meetings of the National Council called pursuant to Article V §4 of the Constitution without modification of the rules of voting on legislation.

C. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, Title 30 §§3-104, 8-101 and 8-102 are unconstitutional and void as to Plaintiff, Executive officers and employees.

D. Muscogee (Creek) Code, Title 16 §4-105 is unconstitutional and void insofar as it attempts to subject Lighthorse Administration policies and procedures to the approval of Defendant.

E. Contracts approved by the Defendant for the Nation must be executed by the Executive Branch, not Defendant.

6. Plaintiff is entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction, or in the alternative, a writ of prohibiting the Defendant from all direct and indirect actions and attempts to usurp and exercise authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and specifically:

A. Enjoining Defendant from any involvement in employment decisions of the Executive Branch beyond Constitutional "advice and consent."

B. Enjoining Defendant from altering or deleting the agenda of the Principal Chief at extraordinary sessions of the National Council called pursuant to Article V §4 of the Constitution, and enjoining Defendant from modifying the rules of voting on legislation at those sessions.

C. Enjoining Defendant from directly or indirectly subjecting the Executive Branch to the supervision, control or approval of the Defendant.

D. Enjoining Defendant from executing and retaining control of contracts on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Therefore, the Plaintiff, A. D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, demands the following relief:

A. A declaratory judgement as described above;

B. A preliminary and permanent injunction as described above;

C. In the alternative, a writ of prohibition;

D. All other relief as may be just and proper.

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

Verification

State of Oklahoma
County of Okmulgee

A.D. Ellis being of lawful age and sworn upon oath states that he is the Plaintiff in this case and he has read the foregoing Petition and the statements contained therein are true and correct.

A.D. Ellis

Subscribed and sworn to before me on June 27, 2005 by A.D. Ellis.

Rod W. Wiemer, Notary

Tribal College to host first Tribal Forum

OKMULGEE — The first annual College of the Muscogee Nation Tribal Forum will be held on July 21 in the Mound Building Auditorium. The general public is cordially invited to attend this historic and enlightening meeting to ask questions and find out answers to exactly what this new college is all about.

The sponsors of the Forum, which begins a 10 a.m., include the Muscogee Nation, OSU-Okmulgee and the Creek Council House Museum. The theme is "Education for the 21st Century" for *Este Mvskokvlke* (the Muscogee people). Featured speaker will be University of Chicago anthropologist Raymond Fogelson. He will address education among Muscogee peoples as well as native ethnology. He is the foremost anthropological authority on the Southeastern Indian peoples and he just completed Vol. 14 of the prestigious Handbook of North American Indians Series for the Smithsonian Institution. Chapters in this volume of Southeast Indians treat Muscogee people in their homelands and in Indian Territory. Professor and board Regent Dr. Blue Clark will serve as Moderator for the forum. Expected to offer remarks also are Principal Chief A. D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, College of the Muscogee Nation Board of Regents Chair Ramona Mason, as well as OSU-Okmulgee President Bob Klabenes.

All Tribes Community Church of Tulsa will host the pre-program reception.

Afternoon activities include a tour of the OSU-Okmulgee and College of the Muscogee Nation facilities. The forum is free and open to the public. Come and find out where the vision this new college will be taking the Creek Nation. There will also be afternoon tours of the OSU-Okmulgee campus. For more information, call Ted Isham at the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324.

MCN Arts Council sets organizational meeting

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Arts Council plans to have its first organizational meeting to disseminate information and plan the vision of a proposed Arts Council that will involve all aspects of Muscogee arts.

All interested artists, including all aspects of art such as, painting, music, basketry, pottery, performance arts, and all types of traditional work are encouraged to attend. The general public is also invited to attend.

The meeting will be held in the Mound Building Auditorium on July 19 at 10 a.m. For more information, call Ted Isham at (918) 756-2324 or Malissa Napier at (918) 756-8700.

Koweta Indian community updates citizens

COWETA — The Koweta Indian Community is having adult Muskogee (Creek) language classes and an adult ceramic workshop on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Our class of 2005 graduate, Aaron Noble won first place medal in golf. He plans on attending Haskell University this fall. Their class motto is "ambitions of success, dreams of victory, goals to reach, life to grasp; we will survive." KICC wishes Aaron much success in his next step in his education.

KICC had many elder participants in the elderly activities during Creek Festival. There was two winners in the bingo activity with two baskets of food won by Bob Bryant and DeLoise Johnson. A gift certificate won by Ernestine Miller. The facility was nice and attendance was around 300. I know we had fun and I hope everyone else did too.

The community is in the process of teaching computer classes to our members that are interested. There will be basic and advance classes. For more information, contact the community center at (918) 486-3288.

Eufaula dormitory accepts applications

EUFAULA — Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory is now accepting applications for enrollment for the 2005-06 school term. Eufaula Dormitory is a BIA funded peripheral dormitory for boys and girls, first through 12th grade. Junior High and High School students enrollment date is August 9 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Elementary students will enroll on August 10 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Enrollment is limited. Therefore, contact the dormitory as soon as possible for applications. Classes begin on August 11 at the Eufaula Public Schools.

All new students are required to have a CDIB, Social Security card, up-to-date immunization records, birth certificate, physical, report cards and/or transcript from the previous school year. All returning students grades 5-12 will need to have a sports physical if they are planning to participate in sports.

Eufaula Dormitory offers a structured environment with supplementary services such as tutoring, behavioral and academic counseling, library and computer-learning resource center. Eufaula Dormitory has begun five (5) day residential services for our program. In this program, our students are taken to a designated bus stop location in their area on Friday evening and picked up at the same location on Sunday afternoon/early evening.

You may visit our website at www.eufauladormitory.org or write to the following address: Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory, 716 Swadley Drive, Eufaula, OK 74432. For further information, contact the Administration Office at (800) 896-3181 or (918) 689-2522.

JOM youth attend Conference

HULBERT — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Johnson O'Malley Program participated in the Joint-Tribes Youth Leadership Conference held at Western Hills Guest Ranch on June 26 through 29. There was a total of 60 students and sponsors from the Joint-Tribes, with 18 students coming from Creek Nation. In addition, Creek Nation supplied 3 facilitators, 4 staff and 2 workshop presenters along with those of the Choctaws and Chickasaws.

The students enjoyed seeing police K-9 dogs demonstrate from the Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse; 'The Knights of the Guild' demonstrated jousting on beautiful, huge, horses draped with regal looking fabrics and the 'knights' in their striking suits of armor. Their presentation was very inspiring and presented a challenge to all who heard and it gave a lasting impression.

In addition, students from grades 7-12 attended workshops, took a trip to 'the Cherokee Village' at Cherokee Nation, had a hay ride and wiener roast, ice-cream social and swimming. The week was concluded with an awards banquet and dance. Many of those who attended weren't ready for the week to end and they made a lot of good friends from around the Nations represented.

The focus of this conference is on developing leadership skills that our youth can use and develop as they continue to adapt in our society. The facilitator and their assigned group worked on leadership projects in their daily group time. We can be proud of the youth that represented Muscogee Creek Nation.

Gates Millennium Scholars

ALBUQUERQUE, NM — The American Indian Graduate Center announces that 150 Native American students that will receive the Gates Millennium Scholarship. Out of 150 students to receive this scholarship, three of these candidates were Creek tribal citizens. They were Amber Jones, Amy Cobbs and Cassie Sudderth.

To be nominated as a Gates Millennium Scholars candidate, a student must meet the following requirements:

- be a citizen or legal resident or national of the United States;
- have a cumulative GPA of 3.30 on a 4.0 scale;
- plan to enter an accredited college or University as a full-time, degree seeking freshman;
- demonstrate leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular, or other activities; and
- be American Indian/Alaskan Native and submit proof of tribal enrollment or certificate of descent.

Gates Millennium Scholarships for American Indians is overseen by the American Indian Graduate Center and administered by the United Negro College Fund. For more information, contact AIGCS at (866) 884-7007.

Births

VICTORIA RENEE JAMES

OKMULGEE — Victoria (Tori) Renee James was born May 10 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Renee Jones and Randy James Jr.

James

Victoria weighed 7 pounds and 1 ounce and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Her maternal grandparents are Robert Bill Jones and Yvonne Benson both of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Victoria Foster of Tulsa and Randy James of Okmulgee.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Elmer Jones and the late Elsie Roberts both of Okmulgee. Paternal great grandparents are Shirley and Bernard Wilson and Ireatha Rice and Ed James all of Okmulgee.

SAVANAH NICOLE MANN

OKEMAH — Savanah Nicole Mann was born on April 12 to Talia Culley and Glenn Mann Jr.

She weighed 9 lbs., 1.1 oz. and was 20.3 in. long.

Mann

She belongs to the Alligator clan and a member of the Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground.

Maternal grandparents are Farron and Irene Culley. Paternal grandparents are Glenn Mann and Rosemary Moore.

Maternal great grandparents are Lorene Culley and the late Paul Culley and the late Amos and the late Juanita Harjochee. Paternal great-grandparents are Melvin and Cleona Mann and the late Lynn Rice and the late Rena Rice.

Savanah has one older brother, Korey.

JUSTIS LEE MILLER

Miller

HENRYETTA — Justis Lee Miller was born on May 16 to Yonevea Bunner and Jesse Miller.

He weighed 6 lbs and 10 ounces and 19.5 inches long.

His maternal grandparents are Pat Bunner of Henryetta, and Robert (Johnnie) Bunner; W.T. and Margie Lewis. Paternal grandparents are Colleen Toombs of Preston and the late Terry Miller of Okmulgee.

Paternal great-grandparents are Dean Toombs and the late Mildred Toombs, also the late J.C. and the late Martha Miller.

Cloud celebrates first birthday with family & friends

TAHLEQUAH — Sadie Cloud turned one on June 29 and her daddy turned 28 on June 26.

They celebrated together with family and friends at the Greenleaf State Park in Tahlequah.

D. and S. Cloud

Sadie is the daughter of Shannen James and Dustin Cloud of Tahlequah.

She is the youngest of six siblings, Derek, Destiny, Deborah, Daniel and Christian all of Nuyaka Ceremonial grounds.

Cloud is the granddaughter of Ben Cloud of Bristow and the late Deborah Dilbeck of Fairfax also Calvin and Letha James of Tahlequah.

Birthday

Factor celebrate with a swimming/slumber party

HENRYETTA — Kaitlyn Factor turned 8 years old on June 2. She celebrated with a swimming/slumber party at the Henryetta Inn & Dome.

Factor

Those attending were school and softball friends and family.

She plays second base for Native Thunder softball and attends Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church.

Kaitlyn will be in the third grade at Weleetka Primary.

She is the daughter of Daniel and Ellie Factor of Okemah.

Maternal grandparents are Della Proctor and Elliot Barnett both of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Noah and Lucinda Factor of Okemah.

Great Grandparents are Wilson and Ina Hicks of Okemah and the late Judy Lasley Proctor of Hanna and the late Rev. Austin and Mamie Barnett of Eufaula.

Kaitlyn has one younger brother, Josiah.

Gonseth celebrates tenth birthday

TULSA — Bre'Onna Marie Gonseth celebrated her tenth birthday with family and friends at Incredible Pizza. Bre'Onna's birthday was on June 28.

Gonseth

She is the daughter of Telicia Dixon of Edmond and Eric Gonseth of Preston.

Her maternal grandparents are Ron and Janet Johnson of Okmulgee. Her Paternal grandparents are Sherryl and Clarence Gonseth of Okemah.

Society

Hooper receives awards for accomplishments

SAPULPA — Elijah James Hooper attends Liberty Elementary school. He is 8 years old and in the 2nd grade.

Hooper

He received achievement Award in Reading (25 books) By: Sandy Garrett State Superintendent, Rising Reader, Good Behavior 2 Super Reader Award. Independent Reader Award, Ready Reader Award, Add Master, Star Master, Double Star Master Award, Triple Star Master Award, Received Student Recognition Award plaque by Sapulpa Indian Education Program.

Elijah was promoted to the Third Grade. He is a member of the Wind Clan and attends Morning Star Fellowship.

Elijah is the son of Sonya Hooper of Sapulpa and Walter Hooper of Tahlequah. He was served breakfast in bed by his grandparents and mother at his request.

Native Thunder competes in Pryor Tournament

PRYOR — On June 10-11, Native Thunder competed at the Pryor Tournament. There were eight teams in the tournament and the girls played a total of six games in the two day event.

The girls finished third in Kellyville, second in Mounds, first in Liberty, and third in Henryetta. They are currently 12-1 in league play with one game left to play.

Blackjack and Poker are now in the Creek Nation Casinos

Under the compact with the state, the Creek Nation Casinos are now allowed to offer the card games Blackjack and Poker. Tulsa began offering card games on June 14, Muscogee began offering them on July 1, and Okmulgee began offering them on July 3rd.

Pictured above (left to right): Michael Flud, Chief A.D. Ellis and Claude Sumner try their hands at the new Blackjack tables.

Blackjack is played between each player and the dealer. Even with up to seven players at a table, each person plays alone against the dealer. Each person who beats the dealer wins. Players also win if the dealer busts (goes over 21) and they don't. Players automatically win if their first two cards equal 21 (called a blackjack). If the dealer has a blackjack then a player's blackjack is a push (neither the dealer nor the player wins).

Blackjack uses a regular deck with card values the same as other games, except for the Ace. The Ace is worth either one or 11 depending on the player's hand. Jacks, queens, and kings are worth 10, and numbered cards are worth their number. The goal is to get the highest card value without going over 21. Players add the value of the cards in front of them, remembering the Ace is worth either one or 11. If the card amount goes over 21 the player goes bust and the dealer wins the hand.

A couple of examples: If a player has a king, a five, and an ace then the ace would be worth one and the hand has a value of 16. If a player has a two, an eight, and an ace the hand has a worth of 21 because the ace is worth 11. Note, however that this hand is not a "blackjack" because it required three cards to get to 21.

The dealer deals each player two cards, face up. The dealer then gets two cards, one face up and one face down. Players can then ask for more cards until they are ready to stop or they have gone bust. After players have finished making their hands, the dealer turns over his face down card.

If the dealer's hand is less than 17 he must take a card. This goes on until the dealer's hand is equal to or greater than 17. If the dealer's hand is 17, but it contains an Ace that counts as 11, the dealer has what is called a soft 17 (as the Ace can count as a one as well) and must take another card (which if that card would put the dealer over 21, the dealer's Ace is counted as one and you then check to see if the dealer is over 17 or not). If the dealer has 17 either without an Ace, or with the Ace counting as a one, then the dealer stands. If the player has a better hand than the dealer he or she wins the amount of his or her original bet. If a player gets a blackjack he or she wins one and a half times the amount of their original bet. For example, a $10 bet would win $15 if the player got a black jack.

An ante is required to play before each hand is dealt. This fee is collected by the Creek Nation Casino to host non-house backed table games in Oklahoma. Monies collected to create a players pool are disseminated back to the players via promotional prizes. Place your bet by placing chips in the circles directly in front of your seat.

Poker is a separate, and very different card game than Blackjack. One of the versions of poker played in the Casinos is the popular "Hold 'Em" version. That is the game we will be describing below.

To get started inform the card room host of the type of game and limit of the game you want to play. You will be immediately placed in a game or on a waiting list to get into the game. The wager varies from game to game. In general, the minimum buy-in (amount you must have to be allowed to play) is five times the maximum bet. For example if you wish to play a $1 - $4 limit game, you must begin play with at least $20. You can then play as many or as few hands as you like, leaving the table any time between hands or after you fold. Take any money you have held onto or won. Generally, the player skill level increases in proportion to the table limit. If you are new to poker it is advised that you start out with lower-limit games before progressing to the higher limits.

To begin the game a white disk called the dealer button is given to a player that makes that player the nominal dealer (not the actual dealer) for that hand. Before any cards are dealt the player to the left of the dealer (person with the white button) must bet "in the blind." (Without getting to see any cards.)

Each player then gets two cards, called hole cards. These are dealt face down. The players look at these and may then call the blind bet (to leave the bet as it is), raise the bet, or fold.

After everyone has chosen to call or fold, comes what is called the "flop." The flop is just three cards dealt into the center of the table that everyone still in the game gets to use. The player who bet in the blind may now raise the bet.

When everyone either calls or folds, a fourth card is dealt with the previous three. This card is called "The Turn." Betting limits normally double with this card once it is in play. After the betting is done the fifth card, called "The River" is played into the middle with the other four. Players then use these five cards, plus the two cards that they have in their hand to make the best poker hand that they are able. Whoever has the best poker hand wins the bet.

Hands go in order of Royal Flush (a straight, all of the same suit, starting with an Ace, and going through the 10), straight flush (straight all of the same color), four of a kind, full house (three of one card, two of another, if a tie happens on a full house, whoever has the highest card in triple wins), flush (all five cards the same suit), straight (all five cards in order, but not of the same suits), three of a kind, two pair, pair, and high card (if players have the same card (eg. both have ace as the high card) you then look at the next high card and so on.

TULSA — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has poured all the foundation and the new structural steel is in place and the subcontractor is applying the exterior skin. Interior drywall work will be starting within the next week. The digital conversion on the camera system has been completed as well.

Election Board

The following registered absentee voters need to contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation election board office at (918) 732- 7684.

Acheson, Marilyn R.
Acrea (Ollie), Dora M.
Adair, Harold Dean
Adams III, Willie S.
Adams, Brian Howard
Adams, Lauren Myrna
Adams, Nancy Muriel
Adams, Neal Victor
Adams, Paula Sue
Adkins, Stella P
Adolph, Gregory Lysle
Adolph, Jeffery Eugene
Agent (Post), Samantha
Aguilar, Rachel Marie
Akins, Cynthia Marie
Alexander, Debra Kay
Alexander, George S.
Alexander, James Alan
Alexander, Lewis E.
Allen (Tiger) Melissa
Allen Kenneth Eugene
Allen, Bluford Warren
Allen, Carl Ray
Allen, Kenneth Edwin
Allen, Kristie Jo
Allen, Shereen Lanier
Allison, Robert Ray
Anderson, Karen Lynn
Anderson, Kathryn A.
Anderson, Michael Jon
Anderson, Robert C.
Anderson, Robin Lee
Anderson, Solomon K.
Anderson, Steven David
Anderson, Susan Denise
Anderson, Zachariah J
Anglen, Michael W.
Anglen, Paul Gene
Anglin, Marlene Joyce
Ansiel Jr., Billy Joe
Ansiel, Billy Joe
Ansiel, Charles Albert
Ansiel, Earnest Wayne
Ansiel, Floyd C.
Anspaw, Carrie Willis
Apple, Mildred Louise
Applegate, Pamela
Aquino Jr., Ricardo M
Aquino, Domingo
Arbuckle, Carol Ann
Archer, Bryon Lee
Archer, Jerry Dale
Archer, Leroy Webster
Archer, Melissa Jane
Archer, Randall Mark
Arnett, Tenia Elaine
Arpoika, Bobby Islo
Arzola, Sherri Lynn
Asbury, Charles Edward
Asbury, Lillian Jo
Ashley, Russell Lavon
Ashmore, Yvette M.
Asimenu, Janeth Kaye
Atkins Jr., William N.
Atkins, Kathy Jeanette
Atkins-Clerc, Ambra
Aubrey, Herbert F.
Audd, Richard Martin
Audrain, Gertrude
Ault, Cheri Renee
Ault, Richard Brian
Austin, Arma Jean
Austin, Danielle Kay
Austin, Susan Lynette
Avants, Helen Belle
Back, Susan Katherine
Badgett, Alice Renee'
Bailey, Betty Lou
Bailey, Martha Eloise
Bailey, Robin Kimberly
Baker Jr., Robert James
Baker, Ronald Butler
Baker, William Travis
Baldridge, Steven J.
Bales, Jerry Alvin
Bandy, Wanda June
Banks, Carol Elaine
Banks, Lori Lea
Banowetz, Margaret.
Barlow Jr., Charles A
Barnett Jr., Charles B
Barnett Jr., Jackson Lee
Barnett, Brandon E.
Barnett, Christopher T
Barnett, David Ronald
Barnett, Jackson Lee
Barnett, Ronald Ray
Barnett, Sandra Carole
Barratt, Virginia Sue
Barrett, Rhett L.
Barron, Delorse Ann
Bartmess, Dione Marie
Barton, Andrew Robin
Barton, Brenda Carol
Barton, Rosella B.
Baughn, Juanit Janett
Bear (Bruner), Mamie
Bear, Dale Lucus
Bear, David
Bear, Jamison O
Bear, Lijah Ray
Beaty, Rozan
Beaver, Edgar Ervin
Beaver, Jody Neeha
Beaver, Lisa Dawn
Beaver, Shelton Oliver
Beaver, Vanessa Ann
Beaver-Herilla, Robin
Bell (Kelley), Mary
Bellamy, Robert Joseph
Bemore, Pamela Gay
Benedict, Jessica Ellen
Benn, Samantha Jane
Bennefield, Harold P.
Bennett, Myrtle Mae
Bennett, Sammy Lynn
Benson, Billie Dennis
Benson, Kyleen Susan
Benton, Lilliam Y.
Berg (Barnett), Cindy
Berryhill, Aaron Dale
Berryhill, Adrian Lee
Berryhill, Billy Earl
Berryhill, Brett Wayne
Berryhill, Charles R.
Berryhill, Donald Lee
Berryhill, Emma
Berryhill, Jerry Dwayne
Berryhill, Larry Mose
Berryhill, Loren Wayne
Berryhill, Michael Dean
Berryhill, Richard Arlen
Berryhill, Shirley Ann
Berryhill, Walter S.
Berryhill, Woodrow
Beshear, David Wayne
Best, James Ernest
Best, John Hogan
Bethel, Pearla Mae
Bettis, Mildred Lee
Bevenue, Joseph Kent
Bevenue, Melissa M.
Bible, Matthew C.
Bigler, Michael David
Billhimer, Carolyn
Billie, Remona Lynn
Billings, Robert Willie
Billy, Franklin T.
Bingham, Tammy Lea
Bird, James Edward
Birdcreek, Amos B.
Black, Carolyn Ruth
Blackwell, Douglas A.
Blakeley, Mary Lu Ella
Blalock, Richard Allen
Blankenship, Dempsey
Blankenship, Donald D
Blankenship, Ricky W
Block, Margaret C.
Boerstler, Darrell Lee
Boneau, Kathryn Jean
Booth, Larry Joe
Booth, Sara Jane
Border (Couch), Peggy
Bosin (Butler), Sandra
Bouchie, Kristy Lynn
Boujaoude, Margaret S.
Bowen. Leslie Dyan
Bowers, Donna Eloise
Boyd, Carla Denise
Boyle (Barton), Barbara
Bradford (Davis), Lillie
Bradshaw, Valerie Ann
Bradwell, Kristie Ann
Brady, Mary Allen
Brandon Jr., Noel W.
Brasuell, Perry Slay
Brasuell, Wallace Wade
Bratcher, Georgialene
Bratcher, Jerri Lynn
Bredesen,, Stephanie L
Breshears, Trenton Paul
Brewer, Linda Susan
Brewington, Patricia A
Brewster, Larry Wayne
Bridges, Jordan Wade
Bright, Tracy Lynn
Briscoe, Bobbine J.
Britt (Tiger), Sherri L.
Brock, Terri Lynn
Brown, Blanchard W.
Brown, Carolyn June
Brown, Martha R
Brown, Minnie Lucille
Brown, Pennie Daylene
Brown, Robert Scott
Brown, Sarah Ann
Brown, Sherri Lou
Brownfield, Kelli Renee
Brownfield, Oscar Jeff
Broyles, Evelyn Louise
Bruce, Lucas Douglas
Bruner, Christopher G
Bruner, Douglas Rentie
Bruner, Jacob Mitchell
Bruner, Jannie Mazella
Bruner, John Daniel
Bruner, Lady Beatrice
Bruner, Randal Louis
Bryden Sherry Annette
Buchholz, Deborah A.
Buck, Kevin Edward
Buckley, Bernice Aloma
Buckley, Harry Linnell
Buckley, Jonas Billy
BuckmasterII, Donnie
Buckner, Billy Gene
Bucktrot Jr., Alvin Lee
Bucktrot, Anita Carol
Buie, Ruth Ann
Builter, Leona Elizabeth
Buller, Matthew Alen
Bumpass (Tibbs), Annie
Bunner , Cheryl
Bunner, Angela Dawn
Bunner, Kenneth Mosey
Burgess, David Kenichi
Burgess, Linden Phelix
Burgess, Nathaniel R.
Burgess, Phelix A.
Burgess, Randal Yale
Burgess, Raymond Lee
Burkhart, Lea Ana
Burley (Byard), Lisa C.
Burns Jr., George Alvin
Burris, Curtis William
Burson (Harvey) Connie
Burtnett, James Leon
Burton, James Owen
Bush, Marilynn Glenda
Bushouse, Pamela Jean
Bushyhead, Kathleen
Butler, Randall Gene
Byrd (Watson), Wanda
Byrd, Belinda Lalene
Byrd, Gnetta Frances
Cable, Jo Ann
Cadion, Jacqueline Erna
Caesar, Alphonso
Cain, Tracia Annette
Caldwell, Jerra Gay
Calvert, Michael Todd
Camp, Bonita Jane
Campbell, Clay Ian
Campbell, Ian M.
Canard, Cutis Lee
Canard, Roger Vernon
Capps, Vera Alene
Carden, Monte Deer
Carey, John Christopher
Carman, Sr. Lonnie C.
Carpenter, Jeanie Ann
Carpenter, Michael A
Carpenter, Robert D
Carr, Lenayle Dee
Carroll, Stacie Paulette
Carson, Dana Wesley
Carter (Harris), Delores
Carter, Mable Imogene
Carter, Michelle Renee'
Carter, William Brian
Case, Anthony William
Case, Maurice Wayne
Casey, Leonard Wayne
Casey, Pat Rockne
Casey, Patrica Ann
Castle, Betty Jean
Castro, Larry Demetrio
Catland, Barbara Jean
Caudill, Peter Ian
Caywood, Melissa Ann
Chalakee, Theron Layne
Chalakee, Tommy L.
Chandler, Linda Paulette
Chaney, Christopher R.
Chaney, Kevin Burke
Chase, Tina Renee
Chase, Walton Cole
Chastain, Michelle N
Checotah, Benjamin G.
Checotah, Orvilon
Checote, Johnnie Lee
Cheek, Dawn Anne
Childers, Daniel C.
Childers, Mark Steven
Childress, Lucy Mae
Christian, Etta Mae
Christiansen, Michael.
Christiansen, Patrick
Christy, Linda Marie
Chuckluck, Felicia Faith
Chupco, Sammy Don
Clark, Bessie Adella
Clark, Penny Joanne
Clark, Roxanne
Clark, Sheril Ann
Clark, Tamra Sue
Clarke (White), Lisa D.
Clary, Ruth Ellen
Clayton, Kevin Elmer
Clayton, Ronald Jay
Cleary (Logan) Regina
Cleghorn, Jason Grant
Clements, Lois Charlene
Clemmer, Elizabeth J
Clifton, Debra Kay
Clifton, Dianna Lynn
Cline, Shirley Ann
Clinton, Gary Glen
Cloud, Clinton Lew
Cloud, Rodney Eugene
Coachman, Agnes
Coachman, Brenda Sue
Coachman, Charles M
Coachman, David
Coachman, James P
Coachman, Joseph D
Cobb, Youvon Linell
Cochran, Brenda Kay
Cockrum, Kathleen L
Cody, Jenny Lee
Coffman (Sanger) Karen
Coker Jr., Thomas E.
Coker, Katrina Marie
Cole Jr., James Murray
Cole, (Rundell), Bobbie
Cole, Theresa Liegh
Coleman, Steve M
Combs (Doyle), Beulah
Combs, Harold Barton
Combs, Marcus Lewis
Combs, Melvin Lewis
Combs, Robert Kimbal
Condreay, Maude E. L.
Conley, Oscar Lee
Conrad, Millicent W
Cook (Elsey), Helen
Cook, (Thomas) Joyce
Cook, Jacqueline
Cook, Scot David D.
Coon Jr., Arthur
Cooper, Cranford W.
Cooper, Lyndel Lin
Cooper, Mary Nancy
Coots, Mark Anthony
Cornfield, Thelma M.
Cottrell, Barbara Viola
Cottrell, Cindy Lea
Couch, Jack Cody
Coulter, Kathy Delores
Coursey, Dorless Jane
Cowan, Alice M.
Cowles, Agnes Lorene
Cowles, Jimmy Wayne
Cox, Jerry Edward
Cox, Laura Sue
Cox, Winnie Jo
Coyle (Tiger), Elsie
Coyle, Bobby Lynn
Coyle, Jamie Jo
Coyle, Randy Alan
Crain, Ambia Lea
Crawford, Linda Carol
Crawford, Scotty Shane
Cricklin, David Ricky
Cron, Teresa Marie
Crook, Danetta Ann
Crosby, Shonna E.
Crounse, Jacqueline M
Crowell, Margurette M
Crowell, Thomas James
Cruse, Carrie Elizabeth
Cully (Fixico), Anna L
Daniels, Lance S.
Daugherty, Jenifred
Davidson, Oneawa Kay
Davis (Chotkey) Estelen
Davis Jr., Oneil
Davis, Anthony P.
Davis, Billy
Davis, Don Juan
Davis, Glen Marshall
Davis, Gwendolyn D
Davis, Linda Faye
Davis, Martha Kathryn
Davis, Mary Margaret
Davis, Mella Marie
Davis, Nicole Rochelle
Davison, Ronald Gene
Day (Goins), Janie L.
Day (Harjo), Ora Mae
Day, James Henry
Deacon, Denette Ann
Dean, Richard Vernon
Deaver, Sarah, Jean
Deere (Harjo), Mord H.
Deere, Christopher C
Deere, Dana Michelle
Deere, Kerry Anne
Deere, Samuel Ray
Deerinwater, George E
Demry, Lacy Deon
Denney, Peter Donald
Dennis, Beverly Sue
Denny, Melissa Ann
Deo, Steven Thomas
Deroin, Debra Carol
Determan, Freda
Dewoody, Margaret L
Dickerson Sr., Roosevelt
Dickey, Alice Josephine
Dickson (Jones), Velma
Diehl, Daniel Scott
Digranes, Jo Lynn
Dixon, Dru Sherman
Dobbins, Michael Ray
Dobson, Leah-Alicia
Dobson, Mikel Lee
Doering, Linda Anne
Dorman, Rachael M.
Dorsey, Gary neill
Doss (Sarty), Carol J.
Doss, Douglas Steven
Doss, Reginald Keith
Doss, Samson Wayne
Doss, Trae Jame
Doyle, Annalis
Doyle, Jeffrey
Dozier, Junita
Drew, Earl E.
Driscoll, Rosie Lee
Drotos, Jennifer Ann
Drywater, Jason Lee
Dubose, Icy Ree
Duncan, Donald Gene
Duncan, Ronald Dean
Dunham, Bessie Lee
Dunn, Donna Jo
Dunn, Mark Eldon
Dunning, Betty Lou
Dunson, Daryl Gene
Dunson, Gary
Dunson, Marty Craig

Housing Loans for Muscogee Veterans

OKMULGEE — On June 24, Mr. Karl Pack, representing the United States Department of Veterans Affairs from Houston, met with the Muscogee Nation to initiate the VA housing program titled, "Native American Direct Loan Program." The program was established to buy, build or improve homes on trust land. "This program was brought to my attention in April by Muscogee Veteran Mr. Daniel Simmer. I researched the program, downloaded the agreement required and talked with our tribe's 1st Assistant Attorney, Shannon Cozzoni, about the program. She told me that it is a very workable program, common sense and long overdue," said Ken Davis of the Muscogee Nation's Veterans Affairs Services Office. He then added "Shannon Cozzoni is a strong driving force in securing the agreement needed between the VA, BIA and our tribe. She is perfect for this task."

Front row, (l to r): Cheparney Harjo, John Yahola, Ken Davis. back (l to r): Jackson Barnett, Daniel Simmer, VA Representative Karl Pack, National Council Representative Bill Jones.

In attendance at the meeting were Karl Pack, Ken Davis, Shannon Cozzoni, National Council Representative Bill Jones, Floyd Waters of the BIA, Malissa Napier of the Principal Chief's Office, Sonya Lytch of Tribal Realty, Jackson Barnett of Senior Services, Vicki Curry of the tribe's Mortgage Assistance Program, and Veterans Daniel Simmer, John Yahola, and Cheparney Harjo.

"Once the (Memorandum of Understanding) is agreed upon and signed by the National Council, BIA, USDVA and Principal Chief, we will hit the deck running," emphasized Ken Davis. "This program is another 'earned and secured' available to our Muscogee Veterans. This program has never been used by any tribe in Oklahoma. This office will be the conduit for processing and submission of the loan packages; from Okmulgee straight to Houston," added Davis.

The "Native American Direct Loan Program" is expected to be in place by August. "The fast and enthusiastic support from National Council Representatives Bill Jones, Tony Notaro and Sue Johnson has added tremendously to this effort. We could not do this program, gain the confidence of the VA and secure a benefit for the Muscogee Veterans without the support of our National Council and our ever supportive Principal Chief and Second Chief," said Ken Davis.

Creek Delegation attends Ft. Sill Ceremony

OKMULGEE — A three member Creek Nation delegation attended the Change of Command ceremony for Lieutenant Colonel Jerome Hawkins, Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, 30th Field Artillery Regiment on June 20.

Pictured (l to r): Jackson Barnett, Lt. Col. Jerome Hawkins U.S. Army and National Council Representative Bill Jones present Muscogee Nation Colors to Lt. Col. Hawkins at the Change of Command ceremony on June 20.

"Our tribe was honored to be invited to participate in Colonel Hawkins' Change of Command," commented National Council Representative Bill Jones. "All Muscogee Veterans remember Colonel Hawkins when he came to our tribal mound building and honored us at last year's Veteran's day ceremony," added Jones.

Representing the Muscogee Nation was National Council Representative Bill Jones, Jackson Barnett from Senior Services and Veterans Affairs Services Office, Ken Davis. "He is our Colonel. A stalwart leader. Lt. Col. Hawkins is what is best in the Army. He deserves our Colors," said Ken Davis.

Lieutenant Colonel Hawkins was transferred to his new Post in Virginia.

Williams Family Reunion

WELEETKA — The Williams Family Reunion will be held July 16 at the Weleetka Indian Community Center starting at 10 a.m. Descendants of Synthe Williams and Williumpka are invited to attend.

Anyone attending is asked to bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Sylvia Fish at (405) 786-2556 or Dana King at (405) 786-9219.

Southern California Indian Center's Pow Wow

POMONA, CA — The Southern California Indian Center will be holding its 37th annual Pow Wow on July 29 through 31 at the Fairplex.

For more information, call (714) 962-6673 or visit their website at www.indiancenter.org.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services

OKMULGEE — Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will be at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Department on July 14 starting at 10 a.m.

Anyone wanting to meet with a representative, can call (918) 732-7713 and schedule an appointment.

Senior Citizen breakfasts and dinners

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Salvation Army Inter-Tribal Native American Senior Citizen Center located at 3416 S. Robinson, invites all seniors age 55 and older to join them for breakfast on Monday mornings beginning at 10:30 a.m. and for lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.

There is also an Indian Taco fund raising every Friday at 11:30 a.m. The center offers a variety of activities such as Indian bead work during the week as well.

The center Director is Carole Hume and Marcella Gooden Owen is the Coordinator. For more information, call at (405) 636-0260.

School Clothing Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will be accepting requests for school clothing assistance beginning July 11 and running through October 11. Applications may be picked up at your nearest tribal community center or call (800) 205-3705 or (918) 732-7680 and an application will be mailed to you. Applications should be mailed to: Muscogee Creek Nation Office of Child Care, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Applicants must be a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and must be enrolled in Head Start through Grade 12. Must have proof of school enrollment. Must submit household income. Parent/Guardian/Primary Caregiver must provide 1 month current income verification. Include either: Check stubs or a copy of the first page of your 2004 Income Tax Return. Must include both incomes if married. If not married please state this on the application. If unemployed, a notarized statement must be submitted. If you are receiving assistance from other agencies because you have no income please submit verification of assistance. If the applicant is not the parent but is acting on behalf of the parent, then give documentation in the form of a custody order or a notarized statement from the parent (giving the applicant permission to apply on behalf of the children) must be provided. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card or a printout from the Citizenship office.

Monies received for school clothing must be used for clothing items and/or shoes only. Only original applications will be accepted, no duplicate copies allowed.

Information regarding an application or payment to an applicant is confidential. Application will be returned if all documents are not submitted. Applicants approved depending on availability of funds.

Durniak, Sharon Marie
Durossette, Robert D.
Durossette, Rodney Lee
Duvall, Darin Lee
Duvall, Matthew Glenn
Eads, Arron Phillip
Eads, Ira Vernon
Eads, Melba Ann
Eads, Rachel Ann
Eakes, Vincent Ray
Earnest, Tammy Dee
Easley, Evelyn Ann
Eason, Cynthia Ann
Eastep, Ina Marie
Eastep, Tommy Lee
Ebahotubbi, Michelle D.
Edwards Jr., Richard W.
Edwards, Elizabeth P.
Edwards, Kenneth Lee
Edwards, Marion Lee
Eldridge, Sherry Elaine
Elliott, Joseph Boyd
Elliott, Sallye Elizabeth
Ellis, Vonda Kay
Ellsworth, Kristin Gayle
Elston, Faith Evangelin
Emery (Posey), Byron
Emrich, Deborah Lynn
England, James Albert
England, Samuel C.
English, Terry Dean
Ennis (Couch), Patricia
Ennis, Ewelene Evette
Epperley, Gary Charles
Epperson, Gary Nelson
Erler, Mary Elalee
Escoe, Herschel Homer
Escoe, Leonard Hugh
Eshleman, Tracy Lee
Estle (Chase) Kathryn
Eubanks, Sammy Lee
Factor, Michael Wayne
Factor, Patrick Ryan
Factor, Peggy Ann
Factor, Stephen Walter
Falconer, Barbara Ann
Faris, Jaime Marie
Farnsworth, Kathy Sue
Feagan, Anna Faye
Featherston, Lee
Feliz, Helen Marice
Feliz, Richard Dale
Fields, James
Fields, James Allen
Fields, Samuel Anthony

File, Wanda Lou
Finch, Jerry Allan
Fish Jr., Eddie Robert
Fish Jr., Louis Melford
Fish Jr., Mitchell Franis
Fish, Cindy Lynne
Fish, Kendra Ann
Fisher Jr., Lawrence H.
Fisher, Jonathon S
Fisher, Kenneth Sam
Fisher, Lige Sam
Fisher, Wynona Jean
Fitch, Barbara Sue
Fixico (Spencer), Lenah
Fixico, Anthony Glen
Fixico, Antonia
Fixico, Elmer
Fixico, Kepsey Joyce
Fixico, Quinton Lee
Fixico, Wenona D.
Floyd, Jerry Don
Floyd, Phillip David
Foley, Brian Lee
Foley, Mark Anthony
Fontaine, Lola Maye
Ford (Loney), Nina Mae
Ford, Lillian Pearl
Foreman, Konya Sue
Forester, Robert Scott
Foster, Brian Scott
Foster, Charles Arthur
Foster, David Ray
Foster, Dawn Ranee
Foster, Deanne Marie
Foster, John Edward
Foy, Travis Elroy
Frailey, Marcus Gene
Franchek, Cynthia Ann
Franklin, Doby Sean
Frazer, Clayton Mont
Frazier, Constance G
Frazier, Debra Kaye
Fream, Beecher Lewis
Fream, Edward Lewis
Fream, Kim Kimbrow
Fream, Wendy La'Nell
Freeman II, Jack L
Freeman, Jack Houston
Freeman, Leola
Freeman, Ronald Gene
Freeman, Vernon B.
French, Alix Gerald
French, Gara Lynn
Frogge, Loy Rue
Fruitt, Bernadette Sue
Frye, Marion
Frye II, Ed Porter
Frye, Fannie
Frye, Johnny
Fulwider, David Van
Funchess, Edward
Furr, Claudette Sue
Gable Jr., James Curtis
Gable, Mattie Lousie

Gable, Susie Ann
Gallagher, Darla Jean
Gallagher, David Glenn
Gamble, Robert Lee
Garcia, Deborah V
Garrett, Eula Velma
Garris, Pamela Jean
Garrison (Anglen), Ruth
Gaskins, Elizabeth W.
Gaston, Oliver Don
Gee, Carmen Kay
George, Addie Faye
George, Roy Reed
George, Ruben Dee
George, Stephen Rufus
Geralis, Marsha Lynn
Gibson, Albert Austin
Gibson, Pamela Kay
Gibson, Sherrie Louise
Gideon, Michael Glen
Gideon, Peggy Lee
Gilcrease, Michael Lee
Giles, Justin Bruce
Gilliam, Constance K.
Gilliam, Maude Marie
Gillispie, Barbara Jean
Gilmore, Rhayma Kay
Girod, Gerald Scott
Gisler (Oliver), Dee A
Givens Jr., Charles
Gladden, Jason Michael
Glasco, Tonya Deonne
Goate, Johnson Alfred
Goddard, Mary E.
Goode, Bethel R.
Goodman, Brenda Joyce
Goodrich, Cynthia L.
Gordon, John Harold
Goudeau, Jurlden
Gouge Jr., David Allen
Gouge, Thompson
Graham, Barbara W.
Graham, Candy Meithe
Graham, Kimberly Sue
Grant, Margaret Jane
Gray, Carrie Christine
Gray, Walter Eugene
Gray, Walter L.
Grayson Jr., Curtis
Grayson, Beatrice
Grayson, Cary Charles
Green, Kevin Allen
Green, Lisa Suzanne
Greenwood, Heather
Greenwood, John M
Greenwood, Nora Lue
Greenwood, Robert L
Gregory, Fletcher R.
Griffin, Kristina Paige
Griffin, Marla Jean
Griffith, Robert Joseph
Griffith, Tony Dee
Grimes, Katie Lousie
Grisson, John Edward
Grubbs, Darrell Eugene
Grubbs, Michael E.
Grummitt, Beverly Ann
Grundy, Pamela Renee

Guild, Elizabeth
Guild, Virginia Ann
Gullicksen, Timothy
Gutierrez, Marcella L
Gutierrez, Marcella L
Haddox, Deborah D.
Haddox, Kevin James
Haggard, Arby Nettie
Haikey, Cindy Lou
Haikey, John Phillip
Hain, Richard todd
Hale, Barbara Dene
Hale, David Robert
Hale, Debbie Sue
Hale, Merci Lee
Hale, Robert Lee
Hale, Tommie Nelson
Haley, George Elmer
Hall, Carol Ann
Hall, Mary Ruth
Hall, Melba Jo
Hallford, Lawrence L
Hallford, Louie Lyon
Hallium, Lucille
Hallum, Terry Dwayne
Hamblet, Frank Harold
Hamblet, Ruby Elsie
Hammer, Leigh Ann
Hamon, Shona Rosella
Hanley, Regina Lynn
Hanson, Flossie Arnita
Hardin, Ruby Ladonna
Harding, Eddie Ray
Harjo Jr., Henry
Harjo Wilson Scott
Harjo, Albert Lee
Harjo, Barney Dale
Harjo, Bennie Duke
Harjo, Danny Allen
Harjo, Douglas
Harjo, Elmira
Harjo, Geoffory James
Harjo, Gerald
Harjo, Jennifer
Harjo, Joe
Harjo, Joseph Leon
Harjo, Kelly Newman
Harjo, Laura Ann
Harjo, Lawrence Dean
Harjo, Lincoln Eric
Harjo, Linda Joyce
Harjo, Mary Ann
Harjo, Matilda Maxine
Harjo, Naomi Ruth
Harjo, Opal Nanette
Harjo, Rhonda Dene
Harjo, Roy Dean
Harjo, Shelly Renee
Harjo, Ted Wayne
Harjochee, Frankie D.
Harjochee, Michael A.
Harper, Casey Robin
Harper, James Stephen
Harper, Renee' Lavelle
Harper, Wanda Sue
Harris (Russell), Leva
Harris, Wilbert Erick
Harrison, Connie Mae
Hart (Cochran), Carol
Hartung, Jeffrey Brian
Harvey (Doyle) Delphia
Harvey (Haynes), Millie
Harvey, Allen Ray

Harvey, Alpha Mae
Harwell, Gilbert Paige
Hatcher, Leslie Kay
Hatcher, Ozelle
Hawkins Jr., Barney
Hawkins, Clint Clay
Hawkins, Gary Eugene
Hawkins, Leta Suzann
Hayhurst, Randell Ellis
Haynes, Vernon Haskell
Hays, Lisa Ann
Heater, Peggy Lynne
Heinbach, Susan
Henderson, Charles J.
Henderson, William V.
Hendrix, Janice Louise
Henneha, LauraBeth
Henry, Connie Rene
Henry, Johnie William
Henry, Stephen Gregory
Henshaw, Carol Lynne
Herbert, Jenea Lavonna
Hernandez, Liza Jane
Herring, Juliana Lynn
Herrod, Camille Anne
Herrod, Lanny Chris
Herrod, Louise
Herrod, Richard Leon
Herron, Michael Wesley
Hess, Paul Jerome
Hess, Regina Ann
Hester, Robert Joe
Hicks (Wright), Shelia
Hicks Jr., Norman W
Hicks, Gary Dean
Hicks, Michael Keith
Hicks, Robert Jeffrey
Hightower, Marylou
Hill (Joy), Joann
Hill, Annetta Jean
Hill, Bryant Lee
Hill, Dora May
Hill, Katherine L.
Hill, Levi
Hill, Stewart
Hill, Vanessa Jane
Hill, Wayland Jess
Hixson (Butler), Karen
Hoag (Scott) Mary Lee
Hobbs (Scantlen) Leann
Hobia, Kelly Sue
Hodge, Billy Gene
Hodge, Floyd Wayne
Hodge, Jerry Wade
Hodge, Kelly Denise
Hodge, Larry Dean
Hodges, Frances Jean
Hodges, Francia Jane
Hoffman, Judy Irene
Hoffman, Loretta Fawn
Hoffpauir, Jeffrey Lynn
Hogner, David Adam
Holahta, Louis
Holdridge, Brandon S.
Holladay, Robert D.
Holland, Marjorie R.
Holleyman, Henry M.

Holloway, Eastman R
Holloway, Gwen Marie
Holmes, Rebecca
Holmes, Shirley Ann
Holt (Dice), Hazel M.
Holt, Marvin Louis
Homeratha (King), Effie
Hood (Walker), Wanda
Hood, Barry Keith
Hood, Rachel Nicole
Hooper (Webb), Carla
Hope (Ford), Pamela K
Hope, Kathy Jo
Hopgood, Adrianne M.
Horton, Artie Raynell
Horton, Heather Denise
Horton, Samuel S
Howard, Leland Bruce
Hudgens, Wendy L.
Hueston, Jamie Dee
Hughes, James Robert
Hughes, William S
Hull, Eva Beatrice
Hull, William Loren
Hulsey, Harry James
Hulsey, Jeffrey Leon
Hunt, James Charles
Hunt, William Crawford
Hunter Jr., Kathy Jo
Hunter, John Howard
Hunter, Karen Joyce
Hunter-Law, Michele
Hurd, Gwendolyn Ann
Hurd, Terry Joe
Hutson (Peck), Myrna
Hyde, Richard Ross
Ickes, Shonna Mary R.
Inderlied, Karen Elaine
Indian, Evangelina A
Ingram, Alice Videlle
Ingram, Dana Leigh
Ingram, Marjorie Ann
Ingram, Thomas C
Ingram, Warren Todd
Irish, Linda Kay
Irons, Naomi
Isham, Sara Renee
Isham-Amos, Tina M
Ishmael, Carl Casper
Ishmael, Maxine
Jack Jr., Everett Lee
Jack, Everett Lee
Jackson Jr., Clifford O
Jackson, Betty Sue
Jackson, Dave
Jackson, Geneva
Jackson, Jerry Lewis
Jackson, Jimmie Wayne
Jackson, Kelley Ray
Jackson, Kenneth D
Jackson, Robert Wade
Jackson, Shelly Lynn
Jackson, Timmie O
Jackson, Timothy A
Jacobs, John Alexander
Jacobs, Linda
Jacobs, Warren A
James (Cole), Cynthia

James Jr., Orville E.
James, Jeffrey Warren
James, Michael Lee
James, Robert Edward
James, William Douglas
Janzen, Teresa Darnell
Jenkins, William Lance
Jessie, Lisa Sue
Jihad, Roshell
Jimboy, Jay Martin
Jimboy, Marcy
Jimboy, Tonya Renee'
John, Mary
Johnson (King), Lizzie
Johnson, Betty Alice
Johnson, Charles E
Johnson, David A
Johnson, David Lyle
Johnson, Emma Guila
Johnson, Erwin Jan
Johnson, Gary
Johnson, Gregory W.
Johnson, Jeanetta Sue
Johnson, Joseph
Johnson, Kimberly Ann
Johnson, Mary Blenda
Johnson, Ronald
Johnson, Sherri Jean
Johnson, Thomas Lee
Johnson, Twana Janella
Johnston, Tracey Keith
Jones Jr., Jesse Allen
Jones, Alysia Marie
Jones, Bonnie Lynn
Jones, Charles Allen
Jones, Jeremiah K
Jones, Kathryn Willie
Jones, Kelli Joleeen
Jones, Kenneth Russell
Jones, Opal Delata
Jones, Patrick Wayne
Jones, Phoebe Ann
Jones, Shane O'Dell
Jones, William Arthur
Jordan, Clifford Laverne
Jordan, Jennifer Deanne
Jordan. Lillian Gladys
July, Randy Lee
Kaseca (Squire), Nancy
Kassim (Hale), Audie
Katcv, Freeman M.
Keaough, Evelyn Jean
Keele, Valace Marion
Keeler, Edgar Lee
Keene Jr., Kenneth K
Keene, Darryl Lee
Keeper, Melisa Lynn

Kellehan, Carla Dawn
Kellehan, Paula Jean
Kelley, Flora Darlene
Kelley, Loretta Iiene
Kelly, Bill Dean
Kelly, Martha Elizabeth
Kelough, Jimmy David
Kemp, Randy Glen
Kenney, Sandra Marie
Kepley, Paul Franklin
Kernal, Harry
Kerns, Charlotte Ann
Kerr, Barre Dana
Kerr, Dennis M
Kerr, Marc Randen
Kezer, Claude Dean
Kimble, Travis Lynn
King, Dale Edward
King, Lauren Jennifer
King, Michael Eugene
King, Tara Ann
King, Terry Damon
King-Simmons, Carolyn
Kinne, Christena Sue
Kinsey, Rachel
Kirby, James Dean
Knight, Jackson Ray
Knights, Carol Denise
Knotts, Jueanita Louise
Knox, Clyde Douglas
Knox, Michael Wayne
Koshiway, Marilyn
Kuykendall, Malinda
Lacey, Starrr Dawn
Lackey, Billy Joe
Ladd (Scott), Trisha D.
Laman, Juanita Gertrude
Land, Dinah K.
Lane, Paula Jo
Lanham, Larry Lee
Lara, Wynona
Larew, Carol Sue
Latchaw, Raelyn R.
LaValley, Thomas L
Leach, Loretta Sue
Leader, Cynthia Lynn
Leard, Dale Lee
Leard, Lane Machie
Leath, Mary Catherine
Lee, Andrew Dean
Lee, James Wesley
Lee, Johnnie Mae
Lee, Ricky James
Legrand, Lahoma L.
Lena, Linda Lou
Lena, Louis
Lena, Mark D
Lester, Betty Jane
Levecque, Patricia Ann
Levy, David Benjamin
Lewis Jr., Charles L.
Lewis, Harley
Lewis, James Randall
Lewis, Jessie Wayne
Lewis, Lizzie
Lewis, Selina Jane
Leybas, Daniel Glen
Lidyard, Pamela Jane
Lile, Janet Ruth
Lindsey, Mary Christine

Etowa Mounds update

The Etowah site is one of the most famous Mississippian period mound centers in the Southeast, and has been the focus of many years of archaeological research. Despite that fact, there is still a great deal that we do not know about Etowah and its inhabitants, and that information is important to many different communities. Because Etowah was such a prominent place during the prehistory of Georgia, the information it contains is important to Mississippian archaeologists working in Georgia and the wider Southeast. Etowah's history also is important to the residents of Georgia, who fund its operation as a state park and are intensely interested its story. Finally, Etowah is part of the cultural heritage of Native American people whose ancestors built the site, and the information it contains, in a very real sense, represents their cultural history.

This proposal seeks to explore the usefulness of a set of remote sensing techniques for gathering information about the archaeological record of Etowah. In this proposal we request permission to conduct a remote sensing survey of selected portions of the Etowah site using the proton magnetometer and ground penetrating radar. This is a cooperative project involving professional staff and students from the University of South Carolina, the University of Texas, Texas State University at San Marcos, and the Muscogee Nation of Oklahoma. The goals are to use these methods to map the distribution of buried, prehistoric cultural features and to relocate excavation units completed by previous excavators, including Larson (1972, 1989), Moorehead (1932), Rogan (Thomas 1894), and Wauchope (1966). It is anticipated that the results will be used as the basis for seeking a major research grant to conduct a remote sensing survey of the entire site area using multiple geophysical techniques. This project would likely be multi-year and involve graduate students and Native Americans. Issues Addressed by Remote Sensing at Etowah. Despite the fact that professional archaeologists have worked extensively at Etowah, there are many limitations to the data produced. Key among these limitations is the fact that most of the excavation done at the site has focused on mounds and non-mound areas adjacent to mounds. The entire site has never been tested systematically. As a result we do not yet possess a clear picture of how the entire site was used and how those uses may have changed with time.

For example, it is not possible to identify and understand how residential zones, and by extension population size, changed over time. It also remains unclear as to whether there are other specialized burial areas, outside of the site's burial mound (Mound C), that might contain clues as to the important factor limiting our ability to understand the layout of the site comes from our inability to fully understand the results of previous excavations. Rogan (Thomas 1894), Moorehead (1932), and Larson (1972, 1989) all conducted fairly extensive excavations in non-mound areas at the site. Unfortunately, the precise location of the various excavation units has been lost either because of poor recording techniques or the impacts of time on records collections and site datum. In order to fully exploit the information gathered by these efforts, they need to be placed within the context of the larger site. Both of these problems can only be addressed by systematically examining the entire site area. Traditionally, some kind of excavation, either as small shovel test pits or larger test units, has been used to systematically sample site areas. While these methods have the advantage of producing artifact samples and encountering buried features, they do not produce information that is continuous across the site area. As a result, buried features and old test units can be missed. Also, excavation is a destructive process that, especially on a site like Etowah, must be undertaken only when clearly necessary and only after careful planning. Remote sensing surveys have the advantages of being non-destructive and producing continuous data about the location of cultural deposits and old excavations. While they must be complemented with some level of excavation, the data they produce can make it possible to target those excavations so as to minimize site impacts. Techniques Employed for this project, only two remote sensing techniques will be employed: proton magnetometer and ground penetrating radar. Each operates on different principles, detects different kinds of buried anomalies and therefore will produce complementary kinds of information (Conyers 2004; Herz and Garrison 1998; Kvamme 2001). The magnetometer measures deviations from the Earth's magnetism in specific locations and therefore primarily detects magnetic anomalies like metal and burned areas, but can also detect magnetic fluctuations caused by different kinds of cultural features. This technique should minimally detect burned structures, the palisade, and the prepared plaza surface but may also locate depressed house floors and large pits. Ground-penetrating radar projects sound waves through soil columns, which are differentially reflected back depending on density and moisture content of soils caused by soil changes, buried objects, and voids. This method may be more effective in detecting soil differences caused by the digging and filling of pits, compaction, and intentional earth construction, and should therefore detect the plaza surface, any collapsed daub surfaces associated with the palisade or houses, and other large pits. Proposed Fieldwork objectives of this project are fairly limited because the purpose is to demonstrate the effectiveness of remote sensing for mapping burial cultural deposits and relocating old excavation units. If approved, the project will move forward in two phases. Phase I will involve a three-day pilot study to insure that the equipment we intend to use (proton magnetometer) will actually produce interpretable results in the particular sediments of the Etowah site. Estimating that the crew can survey 40 m^2 in a day and assuming a day will be needed to establish the survey grids, the field work of Phase I should investigate two 40-m^2 areas. Presuming that the results of Phase I warrant continuing, Phase II will consist of an eleven-day project to be conducted during the month of June 2005. Allowing two days for establishing survey grids, it should be possible to investigate as much as 360 m^2 of the site with the magnetometer. Since the ground-penetrating radar and its operators will be available only for seven days of the project, it is projected that about 200 m^2 of the site will be investigated with the radar. The fieldwork proposed in this project will not include excavations. While remote sensing techniques use various geophysical principles to identify buried anomalies, some kind of limited excavation is still required to fully understand the cultural implications of those anomalies. In this case, in lieu of conducting excavations to ground-truth identified anomalies we will focus much of our effort on areas where cultural features and old excavation units are known to exist. For example, one known feature to target is the clay-paved plaza located east of Mound A. Sears (1958) encountered this construction in several places during his testing of the areas east of Mounds A and B. Another known feature that will be investigated is the palisade, which excavation crews exposed in 1962 and 1995 (see King 2003b; Larson 1972). The posts of the palisade had been burned and the floor of a single bastion encountered also had a fired floor. The Brewster phase village, which Larson (Hally and Langford 1988; King 2003b; Larson 1993) has shown to contain burned domestic structures, is another area that can be targeted. We also will target the summits of Mounds A, B, D, E, and F. Old excavations exist on Mounds B, D, and F (see Moorehead 1932; King 1996; Thomas 1894) awaiting rediscovery.

Reporting of Results Processing and interpreting the data will take place at the University of Texas. Within a year of completing the fieldwork, a preliminary report of the project's results will be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources, along with copies of all data and maps produced. Also, interpretation of the results will be presented at a Society for Georgia Archaeology meeting, as well as at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference. Should the results warrant it, they also will be published in an appropriate journal such as American Antiquity or Southeastern Archaeology. Project Budget and Cost Sharing below are the full costs of completing both phases of the proposed project. For Phase I, the individuals involved will donate their labor, and University of Texas will donate the equipment. The University of South Carolina's Savannah River Archaeological Research Program will cover all travel costs, per diem, and housing. For Phase II, the University of South Carolina's Savannah River Archaeological Research Program will cover all travel costs, per diem, and housing for the participants from the Muscogee Nation. The Muskogee Nation will donate the ground penetrating radar and the time of its operators.

Indian Falls Creek 2005

DAVIS — Indian Falls Creek 2005 will be held on August 1 through 5. The theme for Indian Falls Creek 2005 will be "Fill the House".

The camp preacher will be Clint Sinclair, a well known evangelist. The worship team will consist of Jesse Hernandez, Tyrone Smith, Donna Bear and Neil Thompson.

There are many Native churches represented from all over the state of Oklahoma and the Nation.

"I am the children's Ministry Director, for the Indian Falls Creek and our theme this year is Fill the House. I've been attending Falls Creek since I was nine years old. I first went with AJ and Janice Tiger, which was the pastor and his wife. Although my parents did not attend I was still hopeful that they might one day. I've been going now for 25 years, I started out as a camper and now am on the executive board. There are a lot of great memories, it is a very inspirational and special place to me. When you are there you feel the spirit of God on the grounds and you feel close to it, it is an awesome feeling. I've been a member of Belvin Baptist Church for the past three years now. It is so great to see families at falls creek worshiping together and just having a great time. I was 16 the first time my mother attended, I had wanted her to come for a long time and she had told me that she had to work, but if the plant closed she would go with me. So for a month I prayed the plant would close, and then when it did she kept her word and came to falls creek with me. That was over 20 years ago and she hasn't missed a year yet, and she also serves at Silver Springs Church. If people would take the time to experience falls creek they wouldn't stop coming. We even have some natives that come from over seas to worship with us. It's just a really great place to go, and even when I was real little I knew I always wanted to go back, " said Carmen Gore."

Since 1947, families from Oklahoma and across the nation have attended Falls Creek Baptist Indian Assembly. The weeklong family encampment has fostered and promoted Christian training, inspiration, fellowship, evangelism, and missionary zeal among Indian people.

Adult games include volleyball tournaments.

Falls Creek Baptist Indian Assembly offers campers to fellowship are the band and choir, which participate in the evening worship services.

Special activities include: a little Olympics for children, a talent show for all ages, Mr. and Miss Indian Falls Creek contest, a bible drill as well as special craft classes.

Friendly competitions in sports such as basketball, softball, volleyball, golf and horseshoes fill the afternoons; or relaxing in one of the lakes is also an option. The Underground listings include the Indian Car Contest, fry-bread and meat pie making competitions, and the Battle of the Pan Bands.

In addition to fun and fellowship, campers are also encouraged to donate to the annual blood and bone marrow drives. These vital campaigns help increase the number of much needed Native donors to each perspective bank.

Over the last 58 years, over 88,000 people have attended Falls Creek Baptist Indian Assembly. Join us for this week of spiritual renewal and fellowship.

The registration fees for adults through 6 years old is $20 and for children 5 years and younger is $8.

For housing options, call Slim Crabtree, housing director, at (405) 382-2334 or Jim Gordon at (405) 382-3564. For more information contact, Victor Cope at (405) 598-8720 or e-mail at NDNrev@aol.com.

Memorial Singing

HOLDENVILLE — The 38th Annual Buck Memorial Singing will be held July 29 & 30 at the Hughes County Expo Center beginning at 7 p.m. nightly. Admission is free.

On July 29, the entertainment will include: Monument Quartet; The Homesteaders; The Buck Family and Lakeside. Saturday's line-up will be: Florida Boys; The Buck Family; Lakeside and Newtons.

Oklahoma Indian Women's Conference

TULSA — The 15th Annual Oklahoma Indian Women's Conference will be held on September 16 & 17. The theme for this year's conference is "Walking as the King's Daughter."

Friday's activities will be held at Bowen Indian Baptist Church with worship and fellowship beginning at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1515 E. Independence The conference continues on September 17 with all activites taking place at Arrow Heights Baptist Church, 3201 South Elm Place in Broken Arrow. The welcome and Praise & Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Seminars for women of all ages will be from 8:55 until 11 a.m. The morning seminars include: Being a Woman of Strength and Wisdom; Empty Nest Syndrome; Finding God's Mate; Fruits of the Spirit; If Mama ain't happy - Ain't nobody happy; Making a difference and Teaching Adult Literacy. After a joint worship service and lunch the seminars will resume at 1 p.m. The afternoon seminars include: Angel Ministry; Mirroring your Image; The King's Daughter and her Money; Prayer Walking as The King's Daughter and Princess to Princess. The conference will conclude with tea and testimony fellowship at 4 p.m.

Early Bird Registration for the conference must be post-marked or received by August 31 to: Oklahoma Indian Women's Conference (OIWC), P.O. Box 580351, Tulsa, OK 74158-0351. The cost is $20 by check or money order made payable to: Bowen Indian Baptist Church, Attn. 2005 OIWC. Women ages 70 and older the registration is free. On September 17, door registration for the conference is $25 (cash only) and registration begins at 7:30 a.m. If you would like to attend the afternoon session only, the cost is $15 after 1 p.m.

For more information, call Theresa Hinman at (918) 724-1952 for registration, Heather James at (918) 724-0337 for lodging or Raquel Banks at (918) 313-2903 for directions.

Many Springs new roof completed

HOLDENVILLE — On June 23, the new roof of Many Springs Baptist Church was completed. The work was done by about 80 people from 25 different churches, many of which are from South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Texas and local churches as well.

Osmor Morris supervised the operation for the church, but plans only to help one to two churches a year that are in need of caring.

Workers completing the new roof project.

One of the volunteers from the Coleman, Alabama church told us they brought a machine to make gutters all the way from Alabama, which is not an easy task to do. Even the granddaughter of Osmor Morris helped out by cleaning up the trash around the workplace showing no job is to small.

Lingerfelt, Bobbie Jean
Lipp (Gilbert), Serena K
Litsey, James Richard
Little, Kendall Jay
Littlehead, William
Livingston, Jessica Lea
Logan, Jemmie Melton
Logsdon, Rickey Wayne
Lollman, Cheri Joann
Long, Dana Eugene
Long, Darlene Joann
Long, Penny Ann
Long, Rhonda Sue
Long, Roddy Sue
Long, Taylor
Lovelady, Ruby Lee
Loven, Linda Kay
Lovett, Donna Luann
Lowe, Jerry Roosevelt
Lowe, Pauline
Lowery, Ruby Thelma
Loyd, Barry Wendell
Loyd, Bobby David
Lozier, Deforest Abe
Lucas, Robert Jesse
Luke, Mary Ruth
Lutz, Marla Jenee
Lynch, Richard
Lyon, Phillip Earl
Madrid, Lori Anne
Madrid, Mark Steven
Magee, Ernest Neely
Magee, Linvial John
Mahee Jr., Otis
Mahlen, Peggy Lee
Mahoney, Maggie Marie
Mann, Terri Lee
Mannon, Alice Hanna
Marble, Ivan Franklin
Markland, Hannah
Marr, Shelly Kay
Marris, Louise
Marshall, Leona Mae
Marshall, Sean Louis
Marshall, Semary Ann
Martin, Clista Clovedell
Martin, Kimberley L.
Martin, Luwana Kay
Martin, Rosa Mary
Martinez, Amanda Jane
Martinez, Angela Diane
Martinez, Harry Joe
Mason, Edward James
Mason, Herman Andrew
Mason, Randall Alan
Massey, Dortha Kathryn
Masters, Luzvimenda
Masters, Patricia Ann
Matheson, Katrina D.
Matthews, Shirley Ann
Matthews, Virginia Illa
Mattison, Richard Doyle
May, Bekki Jean
Mayer, Jeania Ann
Mayfield, Rosezella
McAtee, Margaret
McCabe, Terry
McCampbell, Shelia
McCargo, Michelle R.
McCarty, Eldridge Deon
McClain Jr., John Albert
McClellan, Clarabell
McCloskey, Barbara L
McClung III, Charles
McConnell, Anne A.
McCosar, James Patrick
McCosar, Vivian
McCoy Jr., Melvin
McCutcheon Carol Joan
McCutcheon, Daniel
McCutcheon, David P
McElroy, James Edward
McElroy, Marlena Kay
McElroy, Timothy W
McGee, Jo Ann
McGehee, Marsha Day
McGhee, Elizabeth
McGilbra, James Louis
McGuire, Annette Starr
McHenry III, Onis F.
McIntosh Jr., Tiger
McIntosh, Charles Emet
McIntosh, Clark Benton
McIntosh, Cornelius
McIntosh, Debra Kay
McIntosh, Delois
McIntosh, Ned Emerson
McIntosh, Phillip
McIntosh, Robert R.
McIntosh, Tyola E
McKay, Lela Elma
McKellip, Janice Hope
McLaurin Sr., Donald
McLaurin, Velma Jene
McLean, Nancy E
McMahan, Davis Shane
McMahan, Joyce Kay
McNack Jr., Alex
McNeese, Robert Allen
McNevins, Richard Lee
McQuarie, Robert James
McQueen, Dana Rai
Meely, Randella D.
Meitler, Jacquie Louann
MeLemore, Jerri Lynn
Melton, Chalon Denise
Melton, Eugene Charles
Michehell, Joseph D.
Micthell, Jennifer Ann
Middleton Jr., James
Miller Jr., Coydell
Miller, Claude Ernest
Miller, Jerry Denise
Miller, Robert Chance
Mills, David Lawrence
Millwee, Teresa Dian
Mirabal, Charleen Kay
Mitchell, Bryron Lee
Mitchell, Christopher
Moffer, Karen Jean
Montemayor, Wendy
Montgomery, Candace
Monts, Jeanetta Olivia
Moore (Cole), Deana
Moore, Albert Daniel
Moore, Anna
Moore, Bobby Jean
Moore, Damon Dion
Moore, James Edwin
Moore, Jimmie Dee
Moore, Kelley Roberta
Moore, Scott Alan
Moore, Steven Allen
Moore, William Roy
Morgan, Barbara Jean
Morgan, John Robert
Morton IV, Charles
Moses, Cynthia Regina
Moses, Wanda Jean
Mount, Linda Fay
Mount, Melissa Kaye
Mowles, Irene Jeanette
Muirhead, Emma Cleo
Muller (Elsey), Pauline
Mulliniks, Judy Darlene
Murdock, Barbara Ann
Murphy, Phillip Ray
Musick, Meridith Ann
Muttelock, John Willie
Myers, Gay Lynn
Myers, Rex Curtis
Najera, Vickie Lynn
Narcomey, Anthony
Nash (Seals), Samantha
Navarro, Lisa Marie
Nease, Viola Marie
Nelson, Lora Ann
Nester, Ramona Faye
Newberry, David Neil
Newberry, Larry F.
Newport, Margie Marie
Nichols, David Bruce
Nichols, Elsie Marie
Nickell, Maynard Kelly
Niehuis, Virginia Anne
Nilima, Teresa Ann
Noah, Erick Dean
Noah, Oleeta Maxine
Nokushutchem, Pzce
Noon Jr., Nathan
Noon, Joyce Kogee
Noon, Steven
Noon, Thelma Jean
Norbury, Linda Sue
Nordlund, Judith Ray
Noriega, Manuel
Northcutt, Eldon Lee
Nowlen, Patricia Anne
Nunn, Alena Michelle
O'Bar, Arreta Dart
O'Connor, Kellie Lynn
O'Dell (Madrid), Margo
O'Field, Jackie
O'Hern, Maurice Dale
O'Hern, Nora
O'Mahony, Robin Dawn
Obregon, Vicki Lynn
Ochoa, Katherine Eline
Odom, Ruth Ann
Oliver, Jacky Clenton
Oliver, Mary Carol
Olsen, Carrie Lei
Olsen, Jerome Andrew
Orcutt, Roy Dean
Osterhoudt, Marilyn
Overstreet, Deborah L
Owens, Danny Floyd
Pace, Frances Lee
Pace, Robert Eugene
Painter, Kellie Rae
Palmer, Kimberly Rae
Parker, Carolyn Gayle
Paschal, Edna Beatrice
Pass, Amanda Lynn
Payne, Lauren Cecelia
Pease, Ronnie Anthony
Peck, Gary Don
Peck, Judith Ann
Pemberton, Orvil W
Pemberton, Sally Ann
Perkins (Hutton), Lucy
Perkins, James N.
Perkins, Jason Robert
Perkins, Ruth Kathleen
Perry, Emma Jayne
Perry, James Cline
Perryman Jr., Phillip
Perryman, Kyle Arden
Perryman, Lyle Arden
Perryman, Paul Kevin
Pettis, Cherokee Rose
Peurifoy (Posey) Audrey
Peyton (Tiger), Elouise
Phillips Jr., Joe Edward
Phillips Jr., Roy Allen
Phillips, Anna Charlotte
Phillips, Teresa Lynn
Philpott (Orcutt) Margie
Pickard, Yvonne
Pickering, Timothy
Pidgeon, tina Marie
Pilcher, Helaina Raye
Pitre, Stella Louise
Pittman Jr., Johnny L
Pittman, Eddie Jeffery
Pittman, Jay W
Pittman, Johnny L
Pittman, Lehman Glenn
Pittman, Michael Gene
Pittman, Michael Jay
Pittman, Tommy Dale
Plevel, Steven Earl
Poindexter, Tonya D
Pope (Scott), Maria
Porter, Freeling Alex
Posey, Gene Raymond
Pounds, Dennis L'Roi
Powell, Sandy
Powers, Carolyn sue
Prater (Thomas), Juanita
Prentice, Shaunna M
Prevett, Dale Alan
Price, Monte Lee
Prince, Lula Mildred
Proctor (Harjo), Bernice
Proctor, Benny Ray
Proctor, Fannie Lydia
Proctor, Franklin . Delano
Proctor, Jarrod
Proctor, Jonas Lee
Proctor, Stephanie Leasa
Pullen, Cathy Cheri
Purdin, Rusty Allen
Quapaw, Johnny Lee
Quapaw, Terry Lee
Quick Jr., William H
Quigley, Zelma Mae
Quinines, Raymond A
Radike, Edward Jay
Radike, James Kent
Raines (Brasuell), Mitzi
Rakestraw, Barbara L
Rakestraw, Beatrice G
Ralston, Alan William
Rame, Joetta Gail
Ramirez (Bear), Rachel
Ramsey, Treca Ann
Randall, Rodney Frank
Randall, Rodney M.
Randolph, Jan Lynn
Ratajczyk, Pamela G.
Ray, Alecia Gail
Ray, Patricia Elizabeth
Ray, Shirley Irene
Red Elk, Frances Eileen
Reece, Gregory Wayne
Reed Jr., Frank Melton
Reeder, Deborah Ann
Reel (Pittman), Donna
Rehling, Melinda Jo
Renick (Anglen), Tracey
Rensch, Edward Craig
Revis, Annella Marie
Rhyne, Elloise
Rich, Whitney Lauree
Richards, Claude M.
Richardson, Erma Lee
Richardson, Misty D
Richardson, Valerie K.
Richardson, Victor L.
Ridenhour, Linda Sue
Ridgway, Isla M.
Ridley, Loretta Irene
Riley, Carol Annette
Riley, James glen
Rinehart, Richard C.
Rinehart, Ronald T.
Rinehart, Russell Fred
Rippee, robin Lee
Risenhoover, Shirley J.
Roach, Alice Louise
Roach, Kevin Ward
Robbins, Cynthia Marie
Robbins, Tochee Mae
Roberts (Shepherd),May
Roberts Jr., James Carol
Roberts, Cynthia Lee
Roberts, Iva Lynn
Roberts, Kitsy Luann
Roberts, Paul Everett
Roberts, Richard Joseph
Robinson, Amy C.
Robinson, Jimmy Lee
Robinson, Rosalious
Robison Jr., Thomas
Robison, Erma Jeane
Robison, Shirley Mae
Roemto, Faith Patricia
Rogers, Lillie Leona
Roley, Abbie Elaine
Romig, Douglas Dean
Rosborough, Debra L.
Rose, Roger Phillip
Ross Jr., Dayton M.
Ross, Charlotte Kay
Rowe, Christine M.
Rowe, Larry glen
Rowland, Ima Jean
Rumsey, Rocky Ray
Rushing, Bettie Jeanine
Russell, amos
Russell, Erica Machelle
Russell, Floyd Allen
Russie (Jones), Mary
Rutherford, Lee Ann
Ryal, Mark Dewayne
Sala (Chisholm), Marie
Sales (McAfee), Emma
Saline Jr., Stevin Jay
Sanders, Annette Renea
Sanders, James Lee
Sanders, Nathan
Sanders, Neva Authula
Sanders, Robin Patrick
Sandlin, Danny gene
Sands, James Lee
Sands, Rickey Lee
Sanford, Audie Ray
Sanger, David Fenton
Sappington, Sherry L.
Sapulpa, Scott Omiya
Schanks, Billy Lee W.
Schanks, Judy Ann
Schanks, Shirlene Gail
Schmidt, David Bruce
Schmidt, Jeannene E.
Schreiner, Rhonda Dean
Schroeder, Juanita M
Schultz, Christine S
Schwarts, Roger Blane
Scott Jr., John Turner
Scott Jr., Willmott C
Scott, Barbara Maxine
Scott, Brummett Delray
Scott, Gerald Dennis
Scott, Jim
Scott, Joe Mack Cott
Scott, Kenneth Scotty
Scott, Samuel Nathineal
Scrggins Jr., Richard D
Seifried, Clarence M.
Seiler, Cynthia Marie
Seitz, Robert Joseph
Self, Dan John
Self, Jimmy Russell
Self, Michael Delbert
Self, Ruben Delbert
Self, Ruben Kevin
Settle, Lisa Anne
Shankles, Janet Lee
Shankles, Lee Ann
Sharp, Donald W.
Sharp, Geneva Virginia
Sharp, Jim
Shawnego, Joh riley
Sheilds, Suzanne E.
Sheldon, Colleen Jean
Sheppard, Betty June
Shinogee, Edward S.
Shirley, Laura Kay
Shobe, Nancy Jo
Shope, Wanda Louise
Short, Gerri Lynn
Sides, Clinton Patrick
Simmons, Robert Cale
Simms II, Yahola
Simonds, Patricia A.
Simpson, Brenda Gaye
Simpson, Charles D
Simpson, Sean Edward
Singleton, Christie D.
Skaggs, Jerry Kim
Skaggs, Nellie Fern
Slayden, Leona Maxine
Smith Jr., Donald Dale
Smith, Brent Willis
Smith, Clayton Allen
Smith, David Dale
Smith, Dorothy B.
Smith, Freda Louise
Smith, Jo Lynn
Smith, Johnnie Ray
Smith, Johnson
Smith, Louise Mania
Smith, Margo Rita
Smith, Maxine Pitman
Smith, Melinda Jane
Smith, Pamela Sue
Smith, Rashie Curtis
Smith, Terri Lynn
Smith, Thelma Jene
Smith, Thomas Keith
Smith, Wanda Louise
Smithee, Derek Ron
Smock, John Campbell
Smoot, Aimee Christin
Smoot, Jerry Doyle
Smoot, Mary Kathrine
Snow, Jimmy
Southerland Jr., Ebbin
Sowell, David Buck
Spain, Jack Dave
Spain, Jerry Wayne
Spain, Julia June
Spain, Michelle Lynn
Spain, Ray Harold
Spear (McKay), Alta
Spear, Kevan Luke
Speer, Julie Virginia
Spencer, Laura Ruth
Springer, Kyle Benson
Standley, Fred Smith
Stanley, Jewell Ruth
Stapp, Clinton Gene
Starr, Michael Dewayne
Stefanek, Kenneth T.
Steger, Shelley Dawn
Stephens, John Matthew
Stephens, Richard C.
Steward, Debora D
Stewart, David S.
Stewart, Robert Frank
Stidham, Susan Lynn
Stillwell, Fannie
Stoebner, Terry Edward
Stomski, Terry
Stone, Robert Thomas
Sugar Jr., Christopher
Sullivan, Polly Elizabeth
Sulphur, Frederick
Supernaw, Roberta June

Request for Bids

FLINTCO, INC. Construction Manager for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is requesting bids from contractors and suppliers interested in furnishing subcontract services and materials for Bid Package Six, Asphalt, Landscaping, Miscellaneous Metals, Mill Work, Waterproofing, Roofing, Terrazzo, Flooring, Wall Finishes, Flag Poles, Signage, Window Blinds, Accessories, Fire Sprinkler and Pneumatic System on the new Koweta Indian Health Facility located in Coweta.

This is a Native American preference project. Bid documents will be available July 5 at 9:00 a.m. in the Flintco Offices at 1624 W. 21st Street in Tulsa, Bid Rooms or at the job site. A $200 refundable deposit is required for the document sets, no exceptions. For further information or information on Pre-Qualification contact Terry Ryals, Project Manager at (918) 486-7319 or (918) 232-5726 and (918) 486-7329 fax or DeWayne Gifford at (505) 331-7223. Only sealed bids on bid documents forms will be received at the Job Site Flintco office at 31870 E. Highway 51, Coweta, OK 74429 until 1:00 p.m. on July 15.

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Public Health Nurse - Okmulgee:

Requirements: Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. Two years of relevant experience in the field of Public Health. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Registered Nursing (prefer BSN), or Diploma, or an AD nurse.

Van Driver (2 positions):

Muskogee ENP and Twin Hills ENP (Part Time)

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler's permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

CEO - Creek Nation Health System:

Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities; Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contract Health services. In addition candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the filed.

Staff Dentist (Part-Time) - Sapulpa:

Requirements: A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

Grant Writer:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with emphasis in Finance, Marketing, Communications, Journalism, or related area of study is preferred. An Associated Degree is required. A minimum of three years of relevant experience is preferred. An equivalent amount of experience may be substituted.for educational requirement. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Health System Administrator - CNCH:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Management, or related field of study is required. A Master's Degree (MPH) in a related field is preferred. A minimum of two years of experience in the health care management / administration field is required, preferably in a tribal environment.

CHR Generalist (2 Positions):

Wagoner County, Hughes County

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalency is required. One year relevant experience. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable. This position requires the employee to maintain a residential telephone. Residence in or near Wagoner County is highly desirable.

Physician Assistant - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. One year of relevant experience is preferred. An emphasis in Women's Health Care is preferred. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AAMC, or other body established for this purpose.

LPN - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited practical nursing curriculum is required. One year relevant experience as a member of a nursing team. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Practical Nursing and current CPR certification.

Clinical Nurse Specialist - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited professional program for advanced registered nursing practitioners as Clinical Nurse Specialist. One year relevant experience is required.. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

Billing Technician (Temporary):

Requirements: Associates Degree in accounting or a related business field is preferred. One year of relevant experience is required with an Associates Degree. Four years of relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements stated above.

Statistical Officer/Epidemiologist:

Requirements: A Master's Degree in Public Health Administration (MPH) or related field is preferred. A minimum of two years experience related to statistical analysis.

Secretary-Contract Health Services:

Requirements: High School diploma or GED equivalency is required. One year relevant experience in a medical business office or related experience. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Patient Information Supervisor:

Requirements: Bachelors Degree in Health Information Technology or related field is preferred. With a Bachelors Degree, two years of related experience is required. Education requirements may be substituted with ten years of relevant experience.

Optometrist - Okemah:

Requirements: O.D. degree received from an accredited college of Optometry is required. A minimum of one year of relevant experience. Must possess Valid License issued by the State of Oklahoma to practice Optometry.

Billing Supervisor:

Requirements: Bachelors Degree in Accounting, Finance, or related field is preferred. With a Bachelors Degree 2 years of related experience is required. Education requirements may be substituted with ten years of relevant experience. CPA is not necessary but would benefit the potential candidate.

Application Procedures:

Submit a current Division employment application form or resume, (a transfer request form for current employees.) All application materials are to be submitted to the attention of the Staffing Specialist. For further information, call Personnel Services at (918) 732-7829.

Sutton, Ronnie Clyde
Switzer, Brian Wade
Switzer, Juanita June
Syfert, Dolores Jena
Tarkington, Marilyn
Tarkington, Tammy
Taryole, Prince Steven
Taylor (Cole), Nellie
Taylor, Christina Anna
Taylor, Connie ruth
Taylor, Debra Marie
Taylor, Ethel May
Taylor, Joyce Ruth
Taylor, Lori Denise
Taylor, Suzanne Elaine
Taylor, Tara Faye
Taylor, wiley
Taylor, William K.
Teague, Janice Marie
Teague, Renita Marie
Temple II, John Arthur
Terry, Frank Amos
Thames, Beverly Kaye
Theus, Lajeune Joann
Thomas Jr., Fred S.
Thomas, Carla Janine
Thomas, Eddie Leroy
Thomas, Emmet E.
Thomas, Maurietta
Thomas, Todd Jay
Thomas, Vanessa Kaye
Thomas, Victor Alan
Thompson Jr., Marshall
Thompson, Belva Jean
Thompson, Charles Don
Thompson, Franzetta
Thompson, Marylena
Thompson, Pamela
Thompson, William
Thornhill, Janet Leigh
Thudium, Shirley Ann
Thursby, Durl Craig
Tiben, John Kite
Tieben, Edna Bettie
Tiger (Bear) Annie
Tiger (Wolf), Lucy
Tiger, Angela Marie
Tiger, Billy George
Tiger, Charleanna
Tiger, Dana Irene
Tiger, Donald Gene
Tiger, Eric
Tiger, George Samuel
Tiger, Guyasuta Askoti
Tiger, Harold Charles
Tiger, Keith Johnson
Tiger, Kimberly Nan
Tiger, Mark Edward
Tiger, Michael James
Tiger, Miller James
Tiger, Phillip Cherokee
Tiger, Ruth Ann
Tiger, Thelma Lousie
Tiger, Timothy Rush
Tiger, William Merle
Tiger, Yonne Anne
Tilley, Janet Sue
Tilley, Wanda Louise
Timken, Jennifer Moore
Timothy, Moses
Timothy, William Scott
Tipton, Karen Ann
Tolbert, Darrell Dwayne
Tolbert, Leonard Harvey
Toledo, Shirley Ann
Tolle, Leanna Marie
Tomassi, David Albert
Tomkus, Ruby Jane
Tomlin, Chiffie Tyrone
Tompkins, Jimmy D.
Toney,Nathan Lee
Torres, Gayle Anne
Torres, Rebecca June
Toussaint-Hill, Victoria
Townsend, Brian Leckie
Townsend, Curtis L
Townsend, Jeffrey L
Traylor, Sarah Emline
Trepp, Lance Mathew
Trewin, Ellen Elaine
Truty, Rebecca Marie
Tucker, Jesse Ollie
Tulsa, Gwendolyn Ann
Turner, Hettie
Turner, Jack Dean
Tuttell, Laurie Lynn
Tyler, Eugene
Tyler, Margaret Ann
Unap, Doris Jean
Underwood, Teresa J.
Unussee, Mathan Jeffrey
Upshaw, Alicia Michele
Upshaw, Michael G
Vancil, Constance Lynn
Vandiver, Nina Leona
Vasquez, Maria Deidre
Vaughn, Martha Jane
Vaughn, Saundra Ruth
Vaughn, Soundra Dee
Vaughn, Yaya Jeanne
Vaught, Tina Leann
Verge, Bryan Kendall
Verge, Kelly Alan
Verge, Willis Howard
Vian, Cassandra Dee
Vickers, Rhana Jaree
Vietti, Betty Louise
Villalba, Diana
Voisine, Ramona Jane
Vontress, Alberta
Vrazel, Charlotte Gail
Wade, Edith Pearl
Wadsworth, Benny R
Wadsworth, John P
Wadsworth, Laura Kate
Waggnor (Wolf), Karen
Wakatani, Dorena Lee
Walker (Harjo) Bobbie
Walker, Austina Marie
Walker, Chalo Moses
Walker, Rhonda Kim
Walker, Robert
Walker, Roger Dale
Walker, Virgil Ray
Walker, Willie A.
Wall Sr., Charles Ray
Walters, Margaret Ann
Ward (Resoff), Juanita
Ward, Martha Armetta
Ware, James Michael
Ware, Jared Lee
Warren , Judy Kay
Warrior, Esther Jane
Warrior, Latreva M
Washington, Betty Lois
Washington, Brutus L.
Washington, Joseph S
Watashe, Cleo
Watashe, Gary Lee
Watashe, Jerry Ray
Waters, Dana Evelyn
Watson (Fish), Cora Lee
Watson, Julian Blair
Watson, Mary Helen
Watt, Betty Jo
Watters, David Eugene
Wauahdooah, Joanne
Weaver, Pamela Renee
Weaver, Rebecca Sue
Webb Jr., Charles
Webb, Gerald Wayne
Webb, Joseph David
Webb-Collins, Eula Bell
Weber, Christopher T.
Weder, Ora May
Wehunt, Patrick Wayne
Weidner, Bryan C.
Welch, Patrick Leon
Welchel, Kami Leann
Wells (Dunn), Josephine
Wells, Ronald Gene
Wells, Rosezena J.
Welsey, Roley J
Wesley, Leo Charles
Wesley, Richard Victor
West (Hill), Leola
West (Simms), Peggy S.
West, Blaine Nelson
West, Cheryl Ann
West, Iris Rose
West, Russell Ethan
Westbrook, John Edwin
Westbrook, Sallie Lynn
Wheatley, Maxine
Wheeler, Kevin Earl
Wheeler, Michael Ray
Whitaker, Mary E.
White, Bettye Ann
White, Hulbert Lee
White, Janet Lee
White, William Alan
Whitman, Richard Ray
Whitson, Mac Duane
Wiley, Ladossa B.
Williams, Dave Alan
Williams, David Irvan
Williams, Dee Laverne
Williams, Jerly Ray
Williams, Jermy Paul
Williams, Julayne Gail
Williams, Larry Dean
Williams, Ramona M.
Williams, Sherry Jean
Williams, Vicky Sue
Willis, Cheryl Diane
Wilmott, Robert N.
Wilson II, Otis Allen
Wilson, Allison Ann
Wilson, Barry
Wilson, Fredericka J
Wilson, Johnnie Sue
Wilson, Katherine L
Wilson, Marsha Lynn
Wilson, Nora Elvenia
Wilson, Simon Leroy
Wind, Thomas Kirk
Windell, Linda Ann
Windsor, Judy Marie
Wingate, Phyllis Lyn
Winters, Michael Leroy
Wither, Barbara Ann
Withers Jr., Frank W.
Withers, Oliver Lee
Witt, Deanna Lynn
Wittman, Drew Michael
Witty, Dale Ralph
Wolf, Wanda Faye
Wolf, Warren Glen
Wolfe, Roscoe
Wood (Bear), Judy
Wood, Steve Melvin
Woodfield, Samuel
Woodson, Sandra Kay
Woody, Ronnei Wayne
Wooten, Dennis Karl
Wooten, Donald James
Workizer, Patsy Pauline
Worthington, Pattie M.
Wright, Cleo Milburn
Wright, Mark Ryan
Wright, Michael Dotson
Wright, Teddy Lee
Wright, Thelma Louise
Yahola, Daniel Anthony
Yahola, Jonas Ray
Yahola, Leandra Day
Yahola, Lisa Ann
Yahola, Virginia Sue
Yarbrough, Linda Fay
Yardy, Thomas Lewis
Yargee, Amon Eugene
Yargee, Pamela Gayle
Yarhola, Clarence
Yeatman, Darla Ann
Yingling, Iva Lousie
Yokley, Bruce Kevin
York, Robyn Jonelle
Young, David Gene
Young, Ruth Anna V.
Young, Stephen Wayne
Young, Velma Jane
Young, William B
Ziegler, Frances Lee
Zielke, Jason Aaron
Zielke, Roberta Sue

Filing and Election dates announced

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has announced the following dates to file for Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Representative. They are July 18 through 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fee to file is $200.

To be eligible to file you must: be an enrolled Tribal citizen; 1/4 or more Creek; 18 years of age; candidate must reside in the district he/she is filing one (1) full calendar year; must be a registered voter six (6) months prior to filing; no felony within the last ten (10) years, a background check will be conducted and employees of Creek Nation must take leave of absence before filing as a candidate.

When filing, you must have the following: tribal enrollment card; provide two (2) forms of proof of residency (physical address) and social security card. It is the responsibility of the candidate to provide all documents.

The primary election date is set for September 17 and the general election date has been set for November 5.

For more information about the election, contact the Election Board office at (918) 732-7684 and 7685 or (800) 482-1979.

Statistics on salaries of elected officials

OKMULGEE — The following is a list of more statistics on salaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation elected officials, at the request of Principal Chief A. D. Ellis.

Principal Chief — $100,000

Second Chief — $60,000

National Council Speaker — $45,000 –$50,000 more or less and full time.

These salaries were set by the National Council before this administration took office.

Chief Ellis uses his power to lead.
Use your power.
VOTE.
56,290 Creeks can make a difference
Native Vote 2004
Every Vote Counts

MCN Trade & Commerce Authority

This article is dedicated to our Director of MCN Trade & Commerce Authority, Daniel Wesley, from all of his employees.

Leaders, what makes them great?

The dedication to serve. A great leader will place the organizations goals in front of their personal goals and will perceive success as the epitome of glory, calculated by the endeavors of their colleagues. There are three cornerstones to great leadership:

Vision: A great leader has the capabilities to see the organizations direction for the future, and to communicate the direction in a way that motivates people. The vision needs to be ingrained with meaningful ideals, or it will motivate no one. It takes a true leader to differentiate between the different management styles to see whether changes need to be made or not. There will always be reasons why not to make a change but a true leader has the conviction to make those changes.

Communication: A great leader must utilize their most precious instrument to motivate, inspire, captivate, and above all win hearts and minds — their communication skills.

Logical intuition: Great Leaders will understand where opportunities knock and where threats lie for their organization. They have a passion for the cause and ideals of the organization, and the people they motivate need to feel the emotions felt are truly sincere. Once the empathy of the people is acquired and the anxiety and fears has been addressed then the organization will be able to transition into the vision anticipated.

Conclusion: Great Leaders have a high emotional intelligence, continual learning, humble in nature, and know their limits. How can a person become a great leader? A person needs to acquire certain instruments of the business trade: communication skill, learn to be analytical, obtain technological and problem solving strengths and above all develop the dedication to serve. One more great hint on how to produce more Great Leaders in this world is to teach Service Learning. Service Learning fosters intensive, consultative relationships between people, peers, and community. Service Learning integrates meaningful community service and education. These traits add to a persons personal and professional portfolio that are immeasurable to us all.

Trade & Commerce gives back to Tribe

OKMULGEE — MCN Trade & Commerce Authority, Daniel E. Wesley, Director and Chairman Second Chief Alfred Berryhill presented James Pratt Controller, of the Muscogee Creek Nation, a check in the amount of $50,000 one of the nine Trade & Commerce Economic Development programs.

(L and R) Second Chief Berryhill presents check to Controller James Pratt

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Updates

Construction Division wins housing bids

OKMULGEE — MNBE Construction Services Division recently signed a contract with Creek Nation Housing Authority to renovate seven (7) homes through out various locations within tribal jurisdiction.

"Steve Bighorse, Manager of Construction Services did a good job estimating and we look forward to renovating these homes for our tribal citizens," said Michael Nalley, Director. MNBE competed with other contractors for these homes.

MNBE Fire & Security finding opportunities with other tribes

NEWKIRK — MNBE Fire & Security was awarded a contract with the Kaw Nation of Oklahoma to upgrade and to provide additional security cameras at their casino. F&S also received a contract from the Sac & Fox Nation to install security cameras at their casino in Cushing. "John Pritchard and B.J. Waggnor have done an outstanding job of building up the reputation of our Fire & Security Division. said Michael Nalley, Director. The whole group of men within the division put in a lot of hours and sometimes are called out in the middle of the night to fix a problem but it is because these guys have established a good reputation for their detail to responding to the customer that has other tribal groups requesting their service."

MNBE and Social Services help Original Allottee

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Fire & Security Division and Creek Nation Social Services Program teamed together to provide a new Medical Alert System in the home of the last Original Allottee of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Ms. Martha Berryhill.

"Janice Hanun, Manager of the Creek Nation Social Services Program approached me about the cost of a Medical Alert System for Ms. Berryhill, said John Pritchard, Manager of the Fire & Security Division. Ms. Hanun had some concerns for Ms. Berryhill in case there was an emergency." MNBE agreed to provide and install the system free of charge for Ms. Berryhill.

"MNBE appreciates Ms. Hanun contacting us to help for a very worthy cause," said Michael Nalley, Director of MNBE. We are honored to be able to help a very special elder." According to Pritchard, "Ms. Berryhill and her daughter, who lives with her, were both given a pendant to place around their neck. If they have any problem they press the button on the pendant and it sends out an alarm for help."

MNBE Construction Services Division To Be Featured In Construction Today Magazine

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Construction Services Division will be featured in the July edition of Construction Today Magazine out of Chicago, Illinois. According to Michael Nalley, Director, "MNBE was contacted several weeks ago about being featured in the magazine and we were very excited to have the opportunity to be included in a magazine that has such a large readership. You can't put a value on the amount of exposure it provides for MNBE."

MNBE Job Opportunities

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Construction Services Division, an entity of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is looking to fill the positions of Project Manager and Job Superintendent. Government construction experience a plus. Must be willing to travel. Creek preference. To apply contact Deanna Igney, Human Resources at (918) 752-3150 or apply in person at 1018 South Wood Drive, Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Open until positions are filled.

Invitation to hear a success story

OKMULGEE — A presentation describing the projects and programs of the Taos County Economic Development Corporation (TCEDC), nationally recognized sustainable, community-based organization located in Taos, New Mexico. The presentation will be held July 14 from 9 until 10:30 a.m. in the Mound Auditorium. Over the fifteen years that TCEDC has offered business incubator services, eighty local businesses were successfully launched creating over 400 new jobs for the community. Current programs include Taos Business Park and Taos Food Center with a commercial kitchen providing facilities for production for value-added farm products. TCEDC works closely with the Taos Pueblo and Chairman of the Board, Richard Archeleta, is also a leader in that pueblo.

The TCEDC programs provide a working model of community involvement and economic development. They will present a slide show and will allow plenty of time for questions and answers. They have extensive experience in grant writing and community development and will share their knowledge and experience. Terrie Bad Hand and Pati Martinson, founders and Directors of the TCEDC. Terrie and Pati describe their leadership system as the family model that builds upon the strengths and wisdom of land-based cultures that have demonstrated the ability to survive and overcome adversity by recognizing the inevitability of cycles. They have been asked to make presentations to numerous national conference and have been recognized through a variety of local and national conferences and have been recognized through a variety of local and national honors and awards.

Tribal Officials meet with Congressional Delegates

SAN DIEGO — Representatives from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation have met with United States Congressional delegates and with officials from the Indian Health Service in efforts to obtain $8.8 million dollars of additional funding for the Okemah Hospital. Since the Tribe began operating the Okemah Hospital in 1977, the Annual Funding Agreements with the Indian Health Service have never provided additional monies for the hospital as a standard program. Instead, it has only received limited Contract Health Service funds.

Pictured (left to right): Health System CEO Dale Nutter, Congressman Dan Boren, National Council Representative Sue Johnson and Health Board Chairman Charles Coleman.

At the request of Dr. Grimm, IHS Director, Tribal Officials were invited to come to his office in Washington D.C. to discuss the possibility of receiving additional funding for the Okemah Hospital. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Health Board Chairman Charles Coleman, and Health Systems CEO Del Nutter responded and met with Dr. Grimm and IHS staff to review the needs and to identify necessary steps.

While at the Self-Governance meeting in early May in San Diego, National Council Representative David Nichols, National Council Representative Sue Johnson, Health Board Chairman Charles Coleman, Health Board Secretary Elizabeth Morris-Gunn, and Health System CEO Del Nutter met with Dr. Grimm and his staff to further discuss the need for additional funding for the Okemah Hospital. From this meeting, packets containing the documentation of needs, letters of support and photographs were prepared for Congressional Delegates. In May, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill accompanied National Council Representative Sue Johnson, Chairman Coleman and Mr. Nutter went to Washington D.C. to meet with members of the United States Congress. Meetings were held with James Inhofe, United States Senate, Tom Coburn, M.D., United States Senate, John Sullivan, House of Representatives first district, Dan Boren, House of Representative second district. Frank Lucas, House of Representatives third district, and Tom Cole, House of Representative fourth district.

Each Congressional member was informed on the need for the additional $8.8 million dollars to fund the Okemah Hospital. It will be up to the Department of Interior and Environmental Appropriation Sub-Committee to include the request in the next preparation of the budgets that will occur next spring. Should these additional funds be received, a significant increase in the services provided will result.

Tobacco Program assist health system go smoke free on campus

OKMULGEE — "Have you noticed the signs, 'No Commercial Tobacco on this property' posted around the properties of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System campuses?" If you haven't you will soon. Then you may find your self-asking what does that mean? Well the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is taking a huge step toward improving the health and environment of the community, citizens and staff by eliminating commercial tobacco use on all health system campuses," said the Tobacco Prevention Program Director, Cynthia Coachman.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System will be implementing a commercial tobacco-free policy, which communicates their position on the use of commercial tobacco products. Commercial tobacco uses include cigarettes whether hand rolled or rolled commercially, chew tobacco, cigars, snuff and pipe tobacco. This policy will apply to everyone in or on all buildings, grounds, parking lots, ramps, vehicles and sidewalks adjacent to the properties owned, leased or operated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. This policy will help the Health System continue their dedication to providing quality health care, in a safe and healthy environment that promotes wellness and healing. According to the Indian Health Service, three out of every five Native American deaths are related to smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke. Our children who are around smoke can inhale the equivalent of 102 packs of cigarettes by age 5. Why do we need this policy? Only you can answer that question but think of your children or loved ones who suffer from second hand smoke everyday.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health system hopes to have the commercial tobacco-free policy implemented by July 1, 2005. Health care providers will be communicating and educating patients and family regarding the policy. First verbally informing, second, handing out brochures and last, but not least providing education to inpatients through an audio/visual on the hazards of smoking and secondhand smoke. The options to stop smoking (cessation) will be made available through your Indian health care provider. The nurse or physician responsible for the patient's care will counsel patient's who use tobacco products about the hospital's commercial tobacco-free policy. These bans are not intended to limit people's right to smoke, but are designed to remove the safety and health hazard of commercial tobacco by taking the activity off the property and away from those already suffering from illnesses, nonsmokers, and young people.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System has a vision that in the near future we will eliminate commercial tobacco use in all buildings, grounds, parking lots, ramps, vehicles, and sidewalks adjacent to the properties owned, leased or operated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This vision will help protect the Mvskoke citizens from the deadly effects of secondhand smoke and reduce children's exposure to adults modeling unhealthy behaviors. A vision that all people deserve the opportunity to live their lives to their fullest potential no matter how young or old they may be. Cessation is prevention for our children's future.

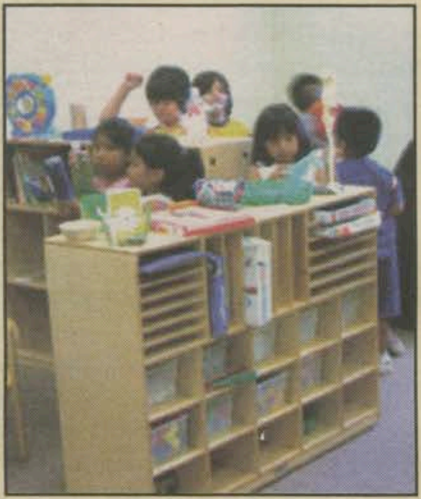
American Indians with Diabetes

DENVER — Twenty-five people from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation attended a national conference for health care providers, tribal leaders, community health professionals and paraprofessionals and tribal community members. The conference focused on the prevention, clinical recognition and optimal prevention and treatment of heart disease in persons with diabetes among American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The conference was held May 16 – 19. Attendees from the Creek Nation included representatives from each of the above groups. Information from leading scientists in the area of diabetes-related heart disease and preventive measures were presented to the 900 conference attendees. Other information was provided in three separate tracks, for clinical treatment, for community programs and for tribal community support. Attendees from all three tracks were pleased with the information they received. The Diabetes Program staff plans to initiate the services provided through this grant in October of 2005. The success of this grant will require the support of informed persons that are in strategic positions within the health system and tribal community.

The conference was sponsored by the Joslin Diabetes Center and was supported by several major national agencies including the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, the Indian Health Service and the American Heart Association.

Housing Provides Summer Day Camp



MUSKOGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division Resident Services, in coordination with the Green Country Behavioral Health Services and Youth Central of Muskogee, is providing Creek Youth presently living in McIntosh and Muskogee counties with the opportunity to attend a summer day camp.

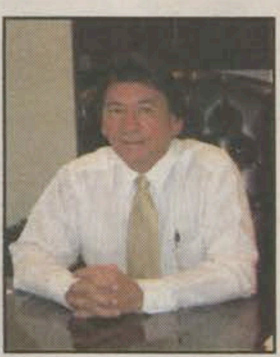
The summer program which will run five days a week will include sports clinics, swimming, field trips and special speakers.

The summer program is open to all youth but Resident Services will sponsor a limited number of Creek youth ages 4 through 15 living in Muskogee and McIntosh counties.

The day camp will run through August 8 registration ending on July 15. For more information on the camp, call Dennis Williams at (918) 752-3216 or Youth Central at (918) 683-6532.

Tribe hires Qualls to lead Housing Division

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation recently hired Ron Qualls as the Director of the Housing Division.



Qualls

Qualls, who once served as Director of the Creek Housing Authority approximately six years ago, aims to enhance available programs and services. “I want to enhance our housing programs to assist Creek citizens with the greatest housing needs,” said Qualls.

Qualls was previously employed with the National American Indian Housing Council providing technical assistance to Indian housing authorities. Qualls brings with him many years of experience and knowledge to this position

For more information about Housing services and programs, call (918) 756-8504.

As the mercury rises, so can the costs of keeping your home cool. Here are some simple tips to help you save money while keeping your home cool this summer.

Set the air-conditioner thermostat at 78 degrees or higher, health permitting. 3-5% more energy is used for each degree the air conditioner is set below 78.

You can save as much as 10% a year on your heating and cooling bills by simply turning your thermostat back 10% to 15% for 8 hours.

A dirty cooling unit condenser coil can increase energy usage by 10% to 20%. You can clean the coil fins by flushing them with a water hose. Also make sure that grass, leaves, dirt, etc. do not obstruct airflow around the coil.

Be sure to shut off power to unit before flushing to avoid electrical shock hazard.

First clean or replace air-conditioner filters regularly. Filters are easy to replace, so check them monthly during the heating and cooling seasons.

Try to operate dryers, ovens, and dishwashers in the morning hours or at night to keep your house cooler during the summertime!

Also try not to cook during the hottest part of the day. If you do have to cook use your exhaust vent if you have one.

If you looking for cost-effective yet eye-pleasing ways to lower your energy bills? Planting trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, and hedges could be the answer. In fact, landscaping may be your best long-term investment for reducing heating and cooling costs, while also bringing improvements to your community.

Spotlight

> "I always wanted to be a Police Officer...we had that death message delivered by a Police Officer on horseback...it left a very indelible impression."

Creek employee shares intriguing past

by Gerald Wofford

It's very common to pass through a day and not really notice what an average day can really consist of. After all, most people, writer included, can easily do the 8 to 5 thing and let the norm become a little mundane. Sometimes taking a step out of that comfortable box and looking at what's around you and seeing things a little different can help break up the mutiny. Even taking a little more time to talk to people around you can help you realize how different, and unique, people's lives are from your very own.

Sherry Corbin is an employee with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and works in the Principal Chief's office, Corbin's official title is Assistant to the Principal Chief, but you could easily label her as a life extremist.

Corbin's journey has taken her to the back tracks of the Oklahoma hills to Capital Hill in Washington, D.C. from a quiet peaceful time growing up at home to a very turbulent and historic era in this Nation's history.

Corbin was like any young college student, striving to make ends meet while trying to maintain a perfect grade, or at least a good one. For Corbin it started kind of early. Her grades were high enough for her to be accepted at a Junior level in High School.

Corbin would enroll at Southeastern St. University in Durant.

Corbin

Corbin remembers one day being really special, in fact, it was so special the entire classes for the day at the school were cancelled. All students and faculty were gathered inside the University gymnasium to hear the current U.S. Speaker of the House and Oklahoma Congressman Carl Albert give a speech to his fellow constituencies at home.

Albert served through fourteen succeeding Congresses as majority whip, majority leader, and Speaker of the House of Representatives respectively.

"It was Carl Albert Day on campus," recalls Corbin "Lt. Governor George Nigh brought me a note that he (Albert) had written on the back of a Durant bank and trust envelope that said 'would you like to come to work for me in Washington? If so, contact me at this address and phone number,' and about a week later, I was there. It was like wagon wheels to Washington," laughs Corbin, she who made doubly sure that Nigh had handed the right person the note and to make certain that Nigh, Albert, and others were aware of her political ties, or who she represented, which were purely objective.

"I told him (Nigh) I am not a young Native American, I am not a young Democrat, I am not a young Republican, I am not of any political affiliation," said Corbin.

Corbin would head east and serve in the Speaker's office as an Assistant Press Secretary. The years that Corbin worked there were certainly some of the most turbulent times in modern American history.

It was at this time that then U.S. President Richard Nixon was in office, and the dark period of the Watergate scandal was about to explode.

Corbin would meet Nixon, as well as every future President up to the current Commander-In-Chief.

Looking back Corbin remembers Nixon as a nice man who was involved with unfortunate events, but his actions could be comparable to other leaders who served in the same office. "He (Nixon) was very personable, and in my opinion, didn't do anything that some others have done that have gotten away with," she said.

Corbin served with Carl Albert's office until 1975, but she wasn't exactly through with Washington. That same year, the Capitol announced that they would be hiring women to serve on the Police Force.

Corbin didn't hesitate, and immediately accepted the challenge. "I always wanted to be a Police Officer," admits Corbin, who would be the 24th sworn female officer for the Capitol Hill police unit. Her accuracy on the firing range was also a factor in her acceptance onto the force. Out of a 300 point system, Corbin shot a 297 with a pistol and a perfect 300 with a rifle, or shotgun.

Corbin is rightfully proud of her sworn duty to service for the public, and recalls a dramatic incident when she was only four years old that would help shape her future. "We had a death in the family one winter, and it was very heavily covered with snow," recalls Corbin. "The only way you could get to our residence was by horseback and we had that death message delivered by a police officer on horseback and it was the wee hours of the morning, I thought wow, he must be very important to be doing something like this. It left a very indelible impression."

While a police officer in Washington, Corbin also served in a special group, officers that do investigations with trained dogs or K-9 unit. Also, for a stint, Corbin also served as a security officer, guarding diplomats and foreign heads of state, such as the likes of King Hussein, the former King of Jordan.

OSU-Okmulgee student and creek citizen designs Carrie Underwood Billboard for Checotah

From OSU/Okmulgee-Sharon Smith

CHECOTAH — An OSU-Okmulgee graphic design student is helping her hometown call attention to its most well-known native, Fox TV show "American Idol" winner Carrie Underwood. Town Mayor Jay Hayes told Visual Communications student Jennifer LeMasters – also a Checotah native - he wanted travelers on the two major highways near Checotah to know exactly where Underwood's home town was. His idea was to put Underwood's picture on a billboard at the edge of town.

Now, anyone driving near the intersection of Interstate 40 and Highway 69, near Checotah, can see Carrie's picture and the words: "Checotah says Reach for the Stars, like our own Carrie Underwood." Underwood was named the winner of the competition.

The billboard picturing the singer is a message of encouragement from the small town of nearly 4,000 people. It was created by LeMasters, a fifth-semester graphic design student in the Visual Communications program. Mayor Hayes was looking for an artist to create a billboard and poster to show the town's support for Underwood. LeMasters showed him her portfolio of artwork, was hired for the job and started working to design the billboard and poster – knowing she had only a week to accomplish everything.

"I knew I could get a picture of Carrie to put on the billboard, because my husband went to school with her brother-in-law. Then, I talked with Mayor Hayes about the wording we could use on it. I thought about when Carrie would sing in her sister's classes and sign autographs for the students, one of whom was my younger sister. Carrie would always add a special note that said 'follow your dreams.' Mayor Hayes wanted to make Checotah's billboard 'our own' and not like the billboards in Tulsa, so I changed the phrase to 'reach for the stars.'"

Creek citizen, Jennifer LeMasters, is shown with the billboard she designed.

After designing the billboard artwork, LeMasters contacted Lamar Outdoor Advertising company in Oklahoma City to print the artwork for the billboard. She also contacted Rick Garner — a graduate of OSU-Okmulgee's Visual Communications program — at Hoffman Printing Company in Muskogee to print the posters.

LeMasters will add the billboard and poster designs on her resume, which she will use when looking for an internship this fall and for a job after graduation in April 2006. "OSU-Okmulgee's Visual Communications teachers really push us to make our work better," says LeMasters. "With the teachers' guidance, and by having the same drive that Carrie has had to stay focused and work hard, I'll become the best graphic designer I can be."

LeMasters says OSU-Okmulgee graphic design instructor James McCullough has found many "live jobs" for her and other students to produce as part of their learning process. She has worked on designing advertising materials for the cities of Henryetta, Muskogee and Eufaula to promote tourism and other city projects.

LeMasters has known Underwood since they were children and remembers Carrie singing at church as a young girl. "Carrie knew she wanted to be a singer when she was very young, and she remained focused on her dream. She always took every opportunity to sing at events, at church and school. When Carrie was in high school, my sister taught her in cheerleading camp, but Carrie decided not to pursue cheerleading so she could focus on her singing. Now she's achieving her dream."

LeMasters hopes to work for a graphic design company design after she graduates. In fact, Lamar Outdoor Advertising wanted to see more of her work, after the company representative saw her billboard design.

Oklahoma State University - Okmulgee is known for its hands-on technical education, world-class equipment and active partnerships with industry. Degree programs are developed according to emerging educational and labor market needs. Seventeen programs of study lead to Associate in Applied Science degrees, three programs of study lead to Associate in Science transfer degrees, and three programs lead to Bachelor of Technology degrees-Information Assurance and Forensics, Instrumentation Engineering Technology and Civil Engineering Technology.

OSU-Okmulgee was the first college in Oklahoma to offer a Graduate Performance Guarantee to employers. Through frequent advisory board meetings, corporate partners make significant contributions to curriculum, faculty improvement, equipment acquisition, internship experiences for students and employment opportunities for graduates. OSU-Okmulgee also promotes economic development among small Oklahoma firms by providing training and assistance with technology deployment, financing, bidding and purchasing procedures.

International poet and musician visits Tulsa Child Care Center

TULSA — Internationally known poet, performer, writer and musician, Joy Harjo came home to visit family and friends and to participate in her Ceremonial Ground Green Corn between her summer tour dates. Harjo stopped by the Glenpool Public library on July 6 to visit with Roger Willie the Navajo Artist and Actor who starred as Charlie Whitehorse in "Windtalkers" and also in attendance at the library were the children of Tulsa Child Development Center.

Joy Harjo shares her talents with the Child Care children.

After meeting the children Harjo volunteered to visit their facility on Thursday morning to read and sing. Her appreciative audience are the ages of four-five years old and school age children.

Harjo was the narrator for the Emmy award winning show, Navajo Codetalkers for National Geographic. Willie's appearance was presented by the American Indian Resource Center.

Visit the Tulsa Library's web site at www.tulsalibrary.org/airc. They look forward to keeping you informed about the AIRC and its activities! Visit Joy Harjo's website at www.joyharjo.com.

June District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Michelle Robison v. Thomas Kalinich
  Ex-Parte
- Michelle Robison v. Thomas Kalinich
  Ex-Parte
- Tracy, Andrea & Jerad Wade v. Travis Wade
  Ex-Parte
- Michael Hames Jr. v. Kristina Hames
  Ex-Parte
- Richard Jr. & Shelia Buckley v. Sarah Taylor
  Ex-Parte
- Patricia Ann Messer v. Cynthia Reynolds (McDowell)
  Ex-Parte
- Jonita Kay Rowe v. Victor Ramon Anderson Jr.
  Ex-Parte

Traffic:

- MCN v. Margaret Keith
  No Security Verification
- MCN v. Margaret Keith
  Leaving the Scene of Accident (non-injury)

Civil/Small Claims:

- Security Finance v. Dora Beaver
  Small Claims
- Continental Credit Corp. v. David J. Proctor
  Small Claims
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Chester McGirt
  Small Claims
- Royal Finance v. Nettie Harjo
  Small Claims
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Suzanna Franklin
  Small Claims
- Debbie & Williams Hedge v. Tyler Lindig
  Petition to Establish Paternity
- Sarah Taylor v. Shelia Buckley
  Small Claims
- MCN v. 1998 White Mitsubishi Eclipse
  VIN#4A3AK54F9WE01d3087
  Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
- William Harge
  Name Change

Criminal- Felonies:

- MCN v. Danya Guinn
  Ct. 1. Poss. of Illegal Drugs
  Ct. 2. Poss. of Illegal Drugs

Legal Notices

**Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 7, July 2005**

Case No. D2005-09
In the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the Matter of service of summons by publication Rosalie Dixon, Petitioner and Michael Eugene Dixon, Respondent

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATIONS NOTICE

TO: Michael Eugene Dixon

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. D2005-09, styled in re the Marriage of Rosalie Dixon, Petitioner and Michael Eugene Dixon, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Divorce* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 18th day of August, 2005, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 28th day of June, 2005.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court
Okmulgee District
By: Marva Proctor, Deputy approved:
Lori J. Guevara, Attorney for Petitioner
The University of Tulsa - Boesche Legal Clinic
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Program
407 S. Florence Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74104-2430
(918) 631-5799

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES PRE-COLUMBIAN FOOD MVSKOKE SHELLFISH & SMALL GAME

By Patrick E. Moore

The Mvskoke had almost unlimited sources of food available in the Americas prior to contact with Europeans. The animal kingdom offered a multitude of foods from the sea, lakes, man-made freshwater ponds and streams. Mvskoke nutritionists had learned there were some restrictions to the use and consumption of aquatic animals and the rabbit. Certain shellfish inhabiting the east or now Atlantic coast and the costal waters of the now Gulf of Mexico were toxic during specific times of the year plus the consumption of fresh water fish would sometimes would lead to fat and/or vitamin deficiencies. The rabbit was also not safe food during some periods of each year.

Freshwater fish and shellfish, lacking in some minerals and vitamins, were combined with saltwater fish and ocean shellfish to provide a balanced intake of necessary vitamins and minerals. Salt water shell fish were the preferred delicacy, but in a pinch freshwater mussels were also eaten.

Ocean shellfish were the easiest to harvest and required no elaborate tools, except sometimes a stick for digging in beach sand. North American shellfish were all edible except those mussels, clams and oysters who filter dinoflagellates during the summer months thereby becoming poisonous and those shellfish who prey upon their poisonous relatives and in turn become poisonous themselves. The Mvskoke was very cautious in the harvesting and preparation of this favorite food. When the water was murky or colored during the summer months and at certain other times the hunter would totally abandon this food source until water conditions cleared.

The Mvskoke shell fisherman also knew when some of these animals spawn during the summer months their flesh would be of poor quality and lack palatable taste.

Oysters, mussels and clams were picked up, cleaned, cooked and eaten. Larger clams were discovered by observing their ventilation holes along the beach whereupon the Mvskoke would dig the clam out with a pointed stick.

The Mvskoke enjoyed eating crabs. The favored Mvskoke hunting technique was to herd and surround hundreds of crabs on a beach or mud flat forming them into a condensed mass for easy capture.

Eelgrass was tied to sticks, lowered into the ocean where it remained until the next day, at which time the Mvskoke fisherman would then carefully remove the pole covered with eelgrass from the ocean and harvest shrimp who had attached to the eelgrass during the night.

The Mvskoke lobster hunter had a very easy hunt. Five hundred years ago the East Coast lobster could simply be picked up as the hunter walked the shore in shallow water. Prior to the arrival of Europeans, some East Coast lobsters grew to a length of six feet.

The Mvskoke cooked and preserved shellfish by threading the cooked animal on string to be smoke or sun dried for use in the future, when the animal was out of season, and when traveling inland within the Mvskoke Confederacy.

The Mvskoke *normally avoided most reptiles* and amphibians as a food source, but sometimes turtles were caught on meat baited strings and added to the menu.

The Mvskoke loved turkey and hunted the animal year round with bow and arrow. In the winter when there was a deep snow the turkey was simply run down and captured. Many Muscogee became skilled in the use of artificial calling devices and could bring a turkey near enough for a close bow shot.

The Mvskoke hunted rabbit by forming a straight line of hunters, then advancing toward the rabbit's habitat, when a rabbit attempted to escape, experts with a blowgun or small bow would shoot the escaping animal. Should the rabbit be in its burrow, a barbed stick would be twisted against the rabbit's fur and the animal then pulled to the surface. Another Mvskoke hunting technique was to have one hunter occupy the rabbit's attention, while the other hunter would sneak close enough for a fatal shot. The Mvskoke sometimes ran rabbits down on foot in the summer, but this was considered sport rather then hunting. When the snow of winter was especially deep this summertime sport turned into a preferred hunting technique essential for putting food on the table.

CHARLES BARNETT

WICHITA FALLS — Funeral services for Charles Barney Barnett were held June 4 in the chapel of Hampton Vaughan Crestview.

Charles was born December 1928. He served as a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps and served in Korea. He was an avid fisherman and rattlesnake hunter.

Barney was a resident of Iowa Park for 30 years and loved his friends and community.

He was preceded in death by his wife Jaquita and son Bobby.

Survivors include: his son, Cody Barnett; wife Jody; two grandchildren; one daughter, Sandy; two sons, Charles Barnett, Jr. and Jay Todd Barnett; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Interment was held at the Crestview Memorial Park.

TIMOTHY BEAR

WILSON — Funeral services for Timothy "Tim" Carmen Bear were held May 28 at the Forest Creek Mission with Rev. Marvin Lowe and Bro. Wallace Gambler officiating.

He was born Feb. 9, 1960 to Lucille Berryhill Bear in Claremore. He lived most of his life in the Wilson Community and was a member of the Forest Creek Mission. Tim was very talented in designing handmade jewelry.

Bear

Bear was preceded in death by: his mother; infant sister, Georgette Bear; brother, John Buckner Jr. and a nephew, Eco Buckner.

Tim is survived by four brothers and seven sisters: Jay Buckner of Shawnee; Paul Bear of Dover, TN; Michael Bear of Henryetta; Anthony Bear of Franklin, NC; Esther Bell of Shawnee; Janet Bear of Poplar, MT; Marcella Jones of Broken Bow; Debbie Bear of Checotah; Rachell Ramirez, Janice Bear and Georgeann DeLaune, all of Okmulgee; 20 nephews and nieces; 25 great nephews and nieces.

ANDREA GARITY

DUSTIN — Funeral services for Andrea Augustus Garity were held May 26 at Sand Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Mark Self officiating.

Andrea was born on December 19, 2005 in Tulsa to Byron Augustus Garity and Kathleen Sue Wiley.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather, Charles M. Wiley.

Survivors include: her parents; two brothers, Joseph L. and Charles M. Wiley II; one sister, Nora J. Biggoose; two grandmothers, Lenora Wiley of Mannford and Libby Mitchell of Sacramento, CA.; grandfather, Russell Garity of Owyhee, Nevada; and several aunts, uncles, and other relatives.

Pallbearers were: Byron Garity; Kaylan Norton; T.J. Morgan and Dylan Buckley.

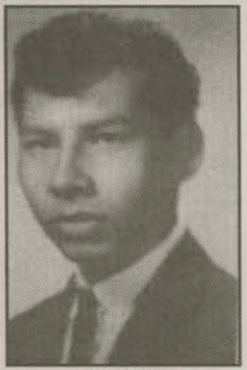
Interment was at the Wiley–Watson Cemetery.

BENNIE KNIGHT

ANADARKO — Funeral services for Bennie Frank Knight were held June 2 at the Ware's Chapel.

Bennie was born May 31, 1946 to Stella (Gutierrez) and Jackson Knight in Claremore.

He was a man of many skills and talents, he truly had a passion for woodworking, a love for gourd dancing and wholeheartedly devoted to inspiring, educating and supporting those in need or to those who were blessed to have known him as a spouse, father, brother, son and friend.


Knight

Besides all the many talents and skills Bennie possessed, he was also known for his inspiration, knowledge and wisdom that he shared with everyone. He was a man known for his positive words of encouragement, support and willingness to help in any way he could despite the limitations. He was dearly loved and will be missed by all those that knew him.

A few months before the diagnosis of cancer, Bennie could be seen Gourd dancing with family and friends at nearby pow-wows. He took pride in his culture where he was skilled in beading and making native regalia for himself and others.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Jimmie, and nephew, "little" Ralph.

Survivors include: two daughters, Angel Marie Harris and Jacqui Stella Benavidez; two grandchildren; three brothers, Raymond, Ralph and Pete; five sisters Kenny, Marie, Patricia, Connie and Beverly; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Interment was held at the Memory Lane Cemetery in Anadarko.

LILLIE McINTOSH

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Lillie (Scott) McIntosh were held June 7 at the Gregg Funeral Home Chapel.

Lillie was born December 31, 1921 to Daniel Scott and Katie (Jesse) Scott at Raiford.

McIntosh attended Eufaula Boarding School for 12 years and 2 years at Haskell School in Lawrence, Kansas. Lillie and her twin sister worked at Boeing, in Wichita, Kansas as Riveters until WWII ended.

She married Siah McIntosh on January 29, 1946 at the McIntosh County Court House in Eufaula.

Lillie worked for Muskogee Government Offices for several years. Siah and her owned and operated the Eufaula Laundry Service and also worked as a Community Health Representative at Creek Nation for several years.

Lillie was a volunteer for the American Red Cross in Tulsa for 5 years. She was a member of the Bowen Baptist Church. Lillie was baptized on January 15, 1925. McIntosh loved cross stitching, beading jewelry, quilting, flowers, fishing and family get-togethers.

McIntosh was preceded in death by: her parents; one brother, Willie Scott; and three sisters, Elizabeth McIntosh, Bessie Lara and Mercedes Scott.

Survivors include: her husband; four daughters, Helena Russell of Broken Arrow, Joan Grider of Glenpool, Delores Mozingo of Tulsa and Phyllis Tattershall of Inola; one son, John McIntosh of Tulsa; three brothers, Kenathee Scott of Rose, Sam Scott of Blanchard and Jackson Scott of Medford, Oregon; 12 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Gerald Girod; Michael Grider; Richard Blalock; Michael Mozingo; Luke and Charles McIntosh; Kenneth Tungate and Daniel Wall.

Interment was held at the Scott Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

It's hard to express in words our gratitude for the love and your prayer's for our beloved wife and mother Margaret Ellen Roberts. Thanks to all who sent food, flowers and all that attended the services. We thank Pastor James Colbert and Weogofkee Indian Baptist Church for conducting the funeral services, Creek Nation, Williamson Funeral Home and Cleo Robinson for their help " God Bless You All". MVTO

James Roberts family

We would like to say "Omvlket Mvto" (Thank You To All) for the expressions of sympathy during our time of bereavement. The many calls, cards, e-mails, flowers, food, prayers and visits were much appreciated.

We would also like to acknowledge Chief A.D. Ellis and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill for their support, as well as the Lighthorse Police who served as the escort to Ron's final resting place. Also, a special "Mvto" to the Sapulpa Indian Community for their support and contributions, and also a "Mvto" to Little Cussetah Baptist Church and others who sang the traditional Creek hymns at the conclusion of the memorial service.

Ron was devoted to his beloved Indian people and tried to help them in any number of ways possible— be it with a few words of inspiration, a small financial gift, or any deed which might be of assistance. He was, though, especially proud of having the opportunity to work with Chief Claude Cox, the late William E. Foster, and Nelson Johnson in establishing the Creek Nation as a Class II gaming operation during the formative years of gaming in Oklahoma.

The love, prayers, and concern which you have shown are much appreciated. May God Bless each and everyone of you. Mvto!

Ronald D. Fixico family

Shop talk with Gerald

Congratulations to the San Antonio Spurs on winning the NBA Championship. I have to admit, I didn't think the boys from the riverwalk were going to be there. I thought maybe Shaquelle and his Miami Heat would have been hoisting the gold ball in the air. But it just goes to show you what good hard work and discipline will do for you. Take Tim Duncan for example, the guy just goes about his business and gets things done. He doesn't have to jump up and down and scream and yell after he scores, or is fouled. No matter what the situation, he does his patented turn around off the glass and scores two, he goes back down the court quietly. Of course, he acts like he's been there before, the man definitely has some class.

You don't hear the announcers say 'World Champions' much anymore when a professional Champion is crowned. Especially in baseball, basketball, or football. Of course, with all the Euro-leagues and Asian leagues and all kinds of different leagues around the globe, they may just have to have a big world tournament like soccer, double elimination! Winner goes to China!

Good to see OU step up to the plate and place voluntary sanctions on its football program and avoid the unnecessary investigations of the NCAA. The alleged fractions, which are certainly minor, stemmed from questionable recruiting visits during the season. Head Coach Bob Stoops cooperated with the NCAA, but mentioned that other universities have done the same.

Speaking of coaches, Oklahoma State Head Coach Mike Gundy is serious about putting a good product on the field this fall, Gundy, who took over the job after former Head Coach Les Miles left for the Bayou country of Louisiana State, has made sure his players know the team rules. Gundy has already disciplined and removed players from the roster for team violations. Some OSU supporters are worried that he might not even have a team if he keeps bringing down the hammer. But don't worry folks, Gundy is committed to bringing OSU football back to where it was. The Cowboys are definitely going to make some noise this fall, and will play spoiler as well. Eventually being serious contenders in the Big 12 conference.

More about football, the 2005 Native All Star Football game was played on Friday, July 1 at the campus of Haskell Indian Nations University. This event continues to grow and is marked each year by recruiters and coaches alike for its showcase of skilled Native American High School athletes.

Also congratulations to the Native American Boxing Championships in Denver, Colorado that were held earlier this month.

Thanks for sending information about Creek athletes.

Creek ball player part of sports documentary

TAHLEQUAH — When Native Legendz slugger William Lowe squares off at the plate in Little Rock this July, the whole nation will be watching — literally.

Native Legendz

The all-Indian softball team was selected as the spotlight team for FOX news, and will be followed throughout the three-day tournament by a camera crew, producing a mini-documentary on the team. At six feet and two hundred thirty-five pounds, they may have a lot to document — Lowe, an outfielder, smashed a grand slam earlier this year at the Carl Smith complex in Tulsa.

Comprised of twelve Cherokees and one Creek Indian, the Legendz were invited to the 26th Annual Busch-Pepsi Softball Classic in Little Rock after the organizers learned that the Legendz had won the Salt Lake City Native American World Series in 2004. One thing led to another and the FOX News network decided to cover the team's adventures over the July tournament, following them to restaurants, hotels and of course on the softball diamond.

Manager Lenny Leach, of Locust Grove, thinks it's great. "We're pleased that FOX is interested in the fact that we're a Native American team. But what we're really focused on is winning the tournament."

Lowe, the newest member of the team, agrees. "Bottom line in softball is winning. It's great to show Indians in leadership roles, show us working together and competing at a high level and we appreciate the publicity. But at the end of the day, we play to win."

Spoken like a man on a mission, which Lowe at one time was. A nine-year veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, Lowe finished his service as a designated marksman instructor, the highest level in designated marksmanship. Ordinary folks might call him a sniper. And when the ball comes rocketing over the plate this July, rest assured that Lowe and the rest of the Legendz will have it in the crosshairs.

OKMULGEE — The Lil' Braves t-ball team went through an undefeated season by finishing 13-0.

The Braves played in the Green Country Baseball Association.

They would like to thank their sponsors: Casey's Lube and Service Center of Okmulgee, Seminole Tribe of Florida and Maaco Promotions in Stroud.

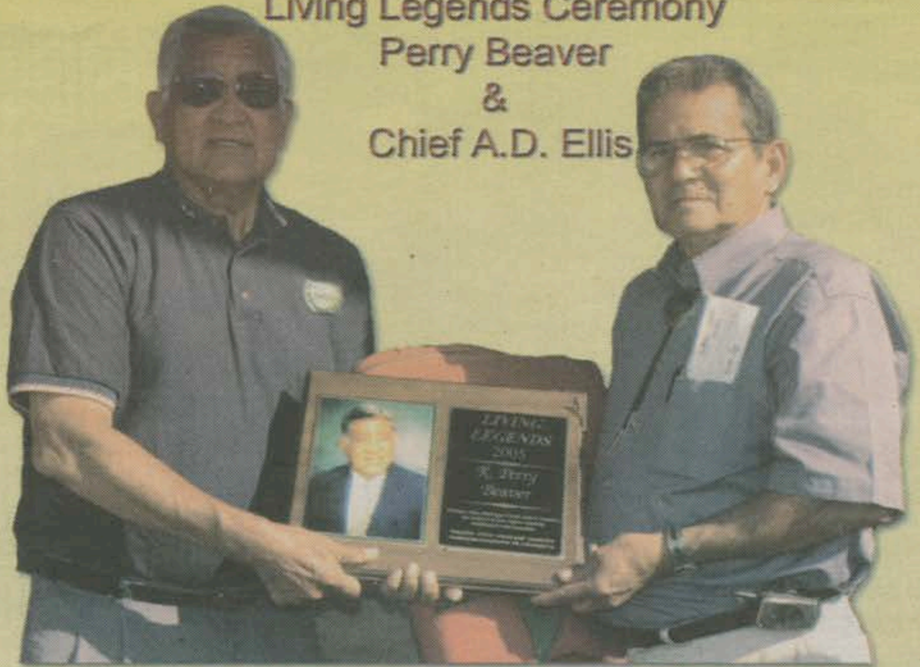
Players pictured front row, (left to right) are: Garrett Underwood, Brent Bacon, Kyle Sanders, Darius Thornton, Kane Roberts, Chandon Jacobs.

Pictured second row, (left to right) Lance Gouge, Elijah Contu, Joseph Kahbeah, Bryce Bacon, Kendal Burgess, Eugene Kahbeah, Jr. , Dylan Hicks, Mateo Sanders. Not pictured – Sanders McLemore, Jr. (coaches) Frank Bear, Katrina Beaver and Virgil Sanders.

31ST ANNUAL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) FESTIVAL

LAYING A PATHWAY FOR THOSE YET TO COME

2005

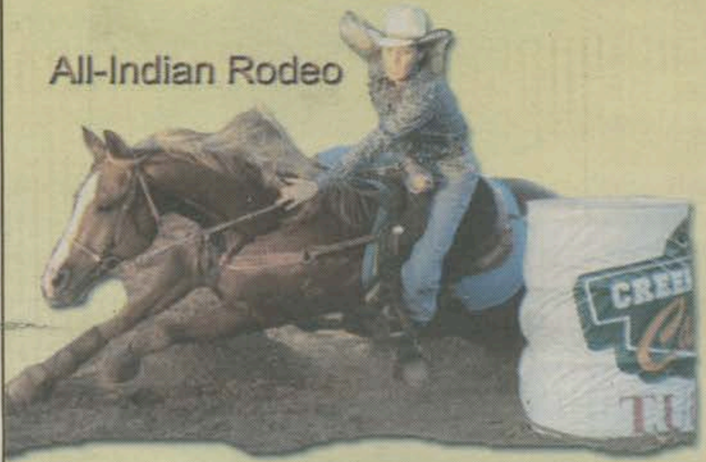

LIVING LEGENDS 2005
R. Perry Beaver

Living Legends Ceremony
Perry Beaver
&
Chief A.D. Ellis

CREEK FESTIVAL

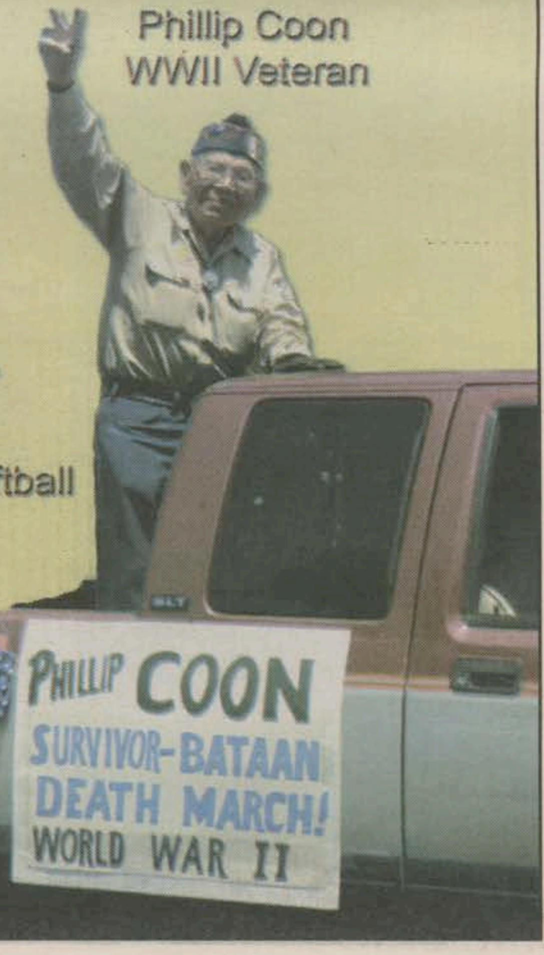
Event Highlights

June 3-4, 10-12, & 16-19



All-Indian Rodeo

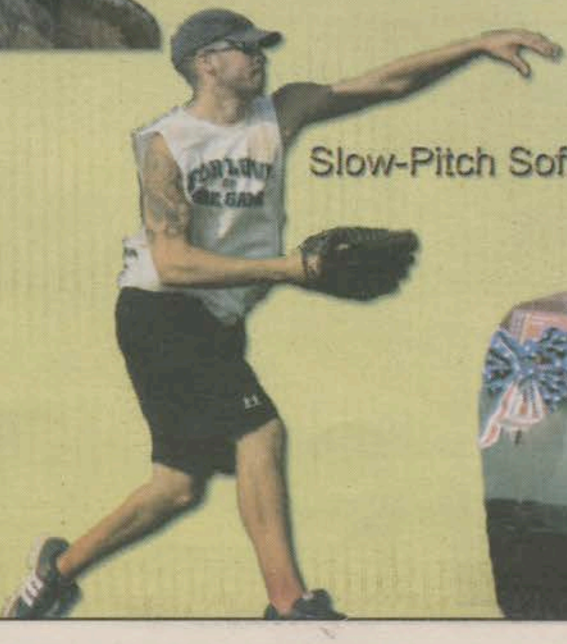
Stompdance


PHILLIP COON
SURVIVOR-BATAAN
DEATH MARCH!
WORLD WAR II

Phillip Coon
WWII Veteran

SEAL OF THE
OGEE

Miss Muscogee Nation
Katie Burden



Slow-Pitch Softball

PARADE

The first Creek Nation Parade was held in downtown Okmulgee with several participating floats and displays. Coordinating this event was Irene Culley of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Diabetes Program. The first place winners were led by Farron Culley of Okemah with Stickball demonstration encouraging us to keep our traditions. Other visitors and participants of this event included Phillip Coon, a survivor of the Bataan Death March of World War II, visiting tribes and Royalty, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Royalty, and the Diabetes EPIC Program. The parade was a great success with many spectators on the sidelines watching.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL

This year's softball teams were treated to newly renovated fields at the Claude Cox Omniplex, which include awnings over the bleachers and reconstructed dugouts that included medal roofing and concrete flooring. Forty men and women's fastpitch teams from as far off as Tahlequah, Oklahoma City, and Florida competed for this year's championship.

The 2005 fast pitch results are:

Women's division — 1st place Sqa-sdi-yu, 2nd place Diamondbacks, 3rd place Fuscate, and 4th place Chatas. The following were named All Stars of the tournament: AJ Johnson Six-Sqa-sdi-yu, Jana Smith-Sqa-sdi-yu, Christine McGirt-Sqa-sdi-yu, Kiele McKinney-Diamondbacks, Natasha Henson-Diamondbacks, Amanda Harjo-Diamondbacks, Sammy Rabbit-Fuscate, Terra Smith-Fuscate, and Chris Mitchell-Chatas. MVP of the tournament was Kayce Odle of Sqa-sdi-yu. Men's division — 1st place Red River Gamblers, 2nd place Seminole Rec, 3rd place Duck Creek, and 4th place Syko. The following were named All Stars of the tournament: Jimsey Fish-Red River Gamblers, Mike Henson-Red River Gamblers, Jim Picattie-Red River Gamblers, Mike Clay-Seminole Rec, Silas Baker-Seminole Rec, Joey Bosarabra-Seminole Rec, Jarred Mosquito-Duck Creek, Randy Battiest-Duck Creek, and Dion Draper-Syko. MVP of the tournament was Steve Cable of Red Rever Gamblers.

VOLLEYBALL

"The tournament had a great turn out," stated Volleyball tournament coordinator, Christine Denny. Entered in this year's tournament were 17 teams. The tournament was finished by 6:30 p.m. "I think that makes tournament history," said Denny. "We look forward to next year!"

The Final Four are as follows:

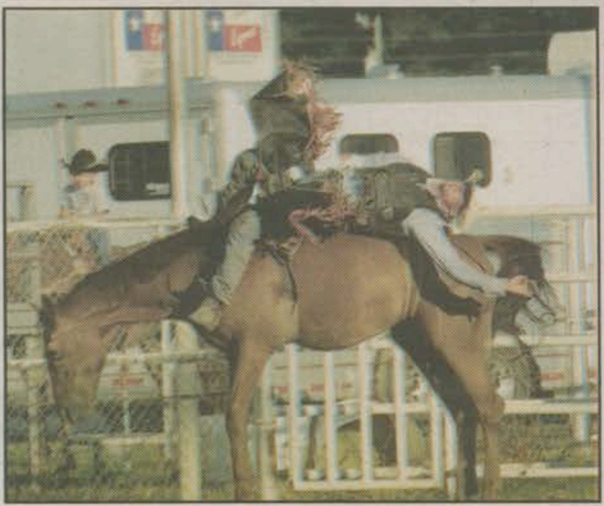
- 1st- Place - Native Heat
- 2nd Place - Wolf Pack
- 3rd Place - Native Heat
- 4th Place - Red Sand

ALL-INDIAN RODEO

This years Rodeo had approximately 180 participants. Crowd attendance reached over 7,000 rodeo fans. Contestants came from as far as Florida, Arizona and Texas. Clem McSpadden, World Renowned Rodeo Announcer and member of the National Rodeo Hall of Fame, was once again this year's announcer.

New to this year's rodeo was the event, "Money the Hard Way." Five people competed for a $250 prize.

"The 32nd Annual Rodeo went pretty good this year," states Bob Arrington, rodeo coordinator. "The crowd really seemed to enjoy it."

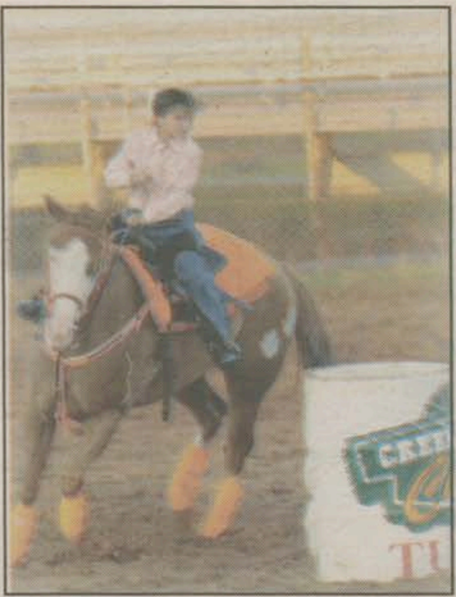


CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE INDIAN ART FESTIVAL

The 2005 Creek Council House Indian Art Festival, held in conjunction with Creek Nation Festival, was a huge success. There were many vendors of Native American Arts on the lawn of the Council House, along with 1830's camp reenactment, many demonstrations of culture and lot's of children's arts activities. The Pow-Wow dance demonstration was very well attended, as was Will Hill and Jehnean Washington's Storytelling. The event was capped off with a traditional Muscogee dance demonstration performed by the ceremonial ground Tallahasse Wvkokaye. The parade was the central part of the day's activities in downtown Okmulgee and the local community was ecstatic over the amount of people brought to downtown Okmulgee. The Juried Arts Competition was a huge success with many quality entries from "New" artists. The art will be on display until July 28, 2005. Everyone is encouraged to visit and see the quality of the work represented.

5K RUN

The 5K Festival Run began at approximately 8:15AM on Saturday morning. The event starting line was on the east side of the Human Development Building. The circular course took runners and walkers east onto Eufaula Street until reaching Loop 56, then heading westward toward the east Capital entrance. The course ended on the east side of the mound building. Seventy-five runners and walkers ranging in ages from 9 years to 87 years old participated in the 3.2-mile event. The event was well received and event coordinators would like to thank the following for making the event such a success: all volunteers, Lighthorse Police, MCN Judicial Branch, MCN Facilities department, MCN Emergency Medical Services, MCN Diabetes Prevention Program, MCN CHR Program, Amos McNac, Gerald Wofford, Jason Waquie, Wal-Mart, Warehouse Market, and The Bama Companies, Inc.



JR. RODEO

"Even though the time frame for organizing the Jr. Rodeo was short, over 500 rodeo fans and over 150 participants per night attend this year's rodeo," said Dewayne Motte, Jr. Rodeo Coordinator. Contestants came from as far as Georgia, Kansas, and Arkansas to compete for $5000 added money.

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Junior Olympic Committee would like to thank all the teams that participated in the Junior Olympics. The committee would also like to thank all the volunteers. The following are this year's team winners:

- 1st - Sapulpa
- 2nd - Okfuskee
- 3rd - Glenpool

LIVING LEGENDS

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis created the Living Legends Ceremony to honor our Muscogee citizens that have made significant contributions to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. National Council Representative George Tiger served as master of ceremonies. Tiger read a bio of each honoree, while Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill presented each with a plaque and Pendleton blanket. Those honored are as follows: Hepsey Gilroy, Rev. Harry Long, R. Perry Beaver, and Amos McNac.

GOSPEL SINGING

The Creek Nation Gospel Singing was a success with help of the special guest singers. Approximately 300-400 people that were present at the event had their appetites met by Charlies Chicken. Although the eveng had a few electric complictions, everyone had a great time of worship and fellowship. "I believe next year we will have a two evening gospel event with one evening southern gospel and the next evening contemporary praise and worship," said Geebon Gouge, Gospel Singing Coordinator. "I would like to thank the following groups that have made the Gospel Singing a success: Taylor Osborn, Joe Baker, Forgiven and Delivered (FAD), JR Frank's Group and Jenna Gouge. I believe next year we will be able to expand the vision of the Creek Nation's Gospel Singing event."

GOLF TOURNAMENT

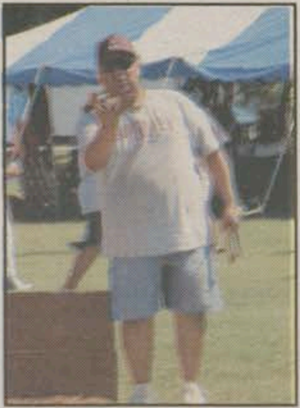
Once again the golf tournament was held at Fountainhead Golf Course in Eufaula. There were 40 golfers that participated in the actual tournament on Saturday June 18th and Sunday June 19th. The results are as follows: Men's Flight Championship - 1st Randy Fixico , 2nd Ben Coffee, and 3rd Stan Duncan; A flight - 1st Lonnie Winney , 2nd JR Ross, and 3rd Woxie Wacoche; B flight - 1st Steve Cochron, 2nd Chris Aultman, and 3rd Joe McGirt; C Flight - 1st James Sipes, 2nd Ron Johnson, and 3rd Robin Stickel ; Senior A - 1st Jerry Perry, 2nd Jerry Walker, and 3rd Truman Kaskuske; Senior B - 1st Len Yahola, 2nd Paul Bevenue, and 3rd Louise McGirt; Longest Drive Winners Men's - Joe Mcgirt; Senior's - Jerry Walker; and Closest to the pin winner - Randy Fixico.

2005 SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

The Scholarship Pageant was held on June 3 & 4 at Covelle Hall on the OSU/Okmulgee Campus. The results are as follows: Miss Muscogee Nation Princess - Katie Burden, 1st Runner- up - Leandra Thompson; Jr. Miss - Cherie Cassaday, 1st Runner-up - Tavfulabi Crook; Little Miss Division I - Newakis Hicks, 1st Runner-up - Nina Fox; Little Miss Division II - Lilly Freeman, 1st Runner-up - Tafv Hicks; and Little Miss Division III - Shelby Powell, and 1st Runner-up - Taylor Tiger.

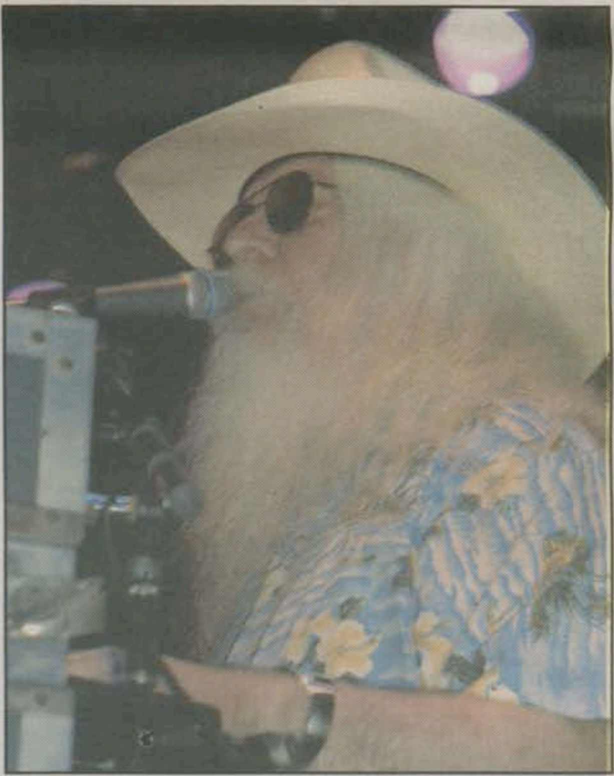
Friday, June 3rd, attendance was approximately 150. Saturday, June 4th, attendance was approximately 70. According to Edwards Rogers, a professional judge for the Miss Oklahoma Pageant, this pageant was one of the most organized he had ever seen.

HORSE SHOE TOURNAMENT



The following is the list of contestants and where they placed: Singles Tournament Contestants:1. Carl Denton, 2. Joe Tiger, 3. Francis Lewis, 4. Glen Isham, 5. Leon Bell, 6. Candice Tiger, 7. Eric Harjo, 8. Danny Adams, 9. Kenny Fish, 10. Ron Johnson, 11. Rudy Walker, Jr., 12. Barton Looney, 13. Debbie Henneha, 14. Bucky Impson, 15. Ed Simmers, 16. Bobby Harjo, 17. Ron McIntosh, 18. Jackie Tiger, 19. Sara Morgan, and 20. Sam Beaver. The Champion was Bobby Harjo, 2nd Place Leon Bell, and 3rd Place was Candace Tiger. The most Ringers was father & son, Bobby & Eric Harjo, tied with 20 ringers each. The oldest player was Carl Denton, 75 years young. Doubles Tournament Teams: 1. Candace Tiger & Leon Bell, 2. Ed Simmers & Ron Johnson, 3. Jackie Tiger & Al Wilson , 4. Tim Bacon & Mark Berryhill, 5. Bucky Impson & Glen Isham, 6. Larry Soweka & Joe Tiger, 7. Debbie Henneha & Sara Morgan , 8. Sam Beaver & Bobby Harjo, 9. Delbert Morgan & Gary Morton, 10. Eric Harjo & Carl Denton, 11. Clifford Bear & David Bear, and 12. Shawn Green & Francis Lewis.The champions were Bucky Impson & Glen Isham, 2nd Place Eric Harjo & Carl Denton, which was a team made up of the youngest & the oldest, and 3rd Place was Candace Tiger & Leon Bell.

FESTIVAL ENTERTAINMENT



Record breaking attendance for both nights at the 31st annual Creek Nation Festival Entertainment withapproximately 7,500 music fans listening to a variety of music. Those in attendence heard music ranging from traditional country, rock and roll, rhythm and blues, and native rock. Friday nights headliners were Indigenous and Junior Brown with special guest: Fiddlin Buddy Streight, Vincent Craig and MC One. Saturdays headliners included Leon Russell, Indigenous, Ulali, Chris Zalez & the Stingers, Jimmy "Junior" Markham, Chebon Tiger Band, Cecil Gray & Red Dawn, Darren Geffe, Homebrewed and MC One. Both days were emceed by Elaine Miles (Smoke Signals) and Chance Rush. One fan told Chief Ellis the crowd was like the state fair midway. Blues Society of Tulsa President Bill Martin stated this years lineup and crowed is comparableto the Tulsa Blues fest lineup and crowd held in May.

Making a stance tohit a home run.

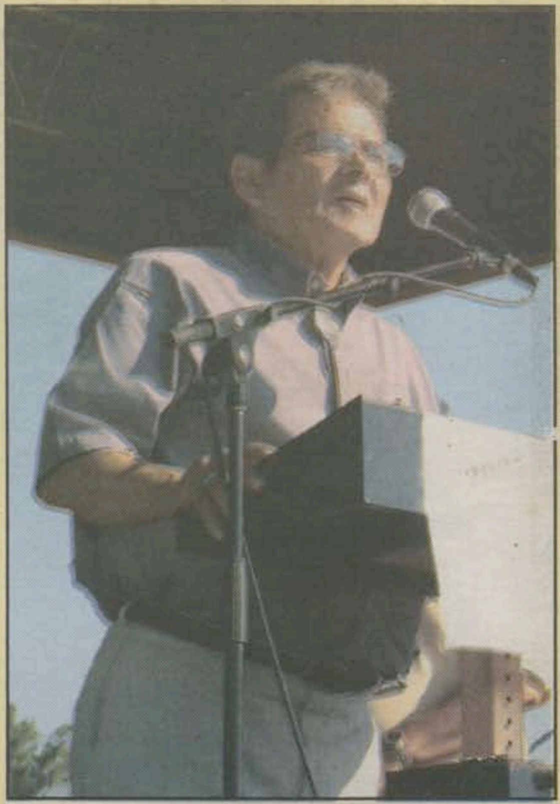
Girls basketball made for great competition.

Players sets ball for a spike. Which makes for a thrilling game of Volleyball.

Junior Brown entertains the crowds.

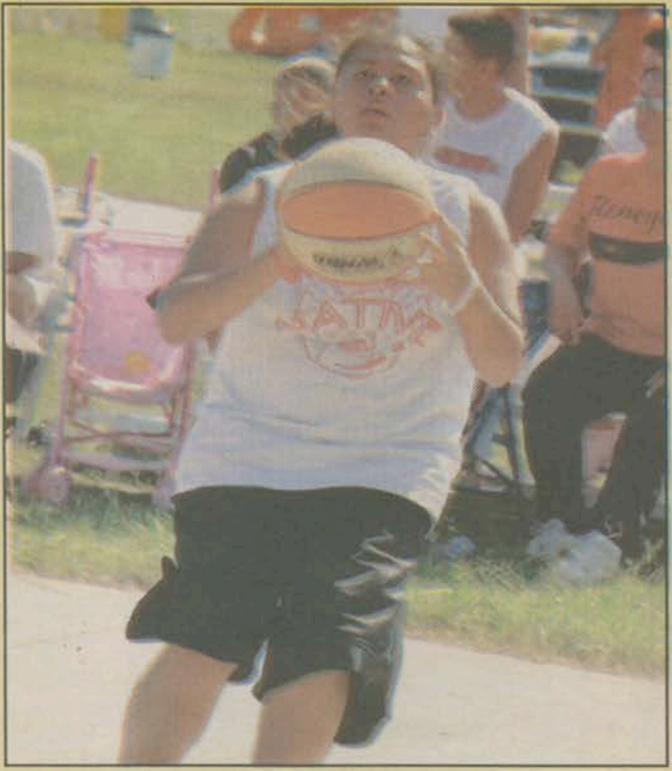
Steer wrestling was an exciting competition at this years Rodeo.

The Health Fair provided valuable information to the public.



Chief Ellis address the crowd at the Living Legends Ceremony.

Two future hardwood stars compete in the youth 3 on 3 basketball.



Catrina Beaver focuses on making a shot in the girls basketball tournament.

Creek Hymn singing

Jenna Gouge performs for Gospel Singing crowd.

Artist, Dana Tiger was in attendance and signing her art work for festival participates.

Many participated in the stomp dance demonstration

Martha Berryhill greets the crowd that was enjoying the elderly activities.

31st ANNUAL
USCOGEE CREEK NATION
FESTIVAL PARADE
PATHWAY FOR THOSE YET

Crowds enjoyed the live band during the Art Festival Events.

A Junior Rodeo Contestant shows roping skills.

A member of the Tobacco Prevention program greets Creek youth as they demonstrate their athletic ability.

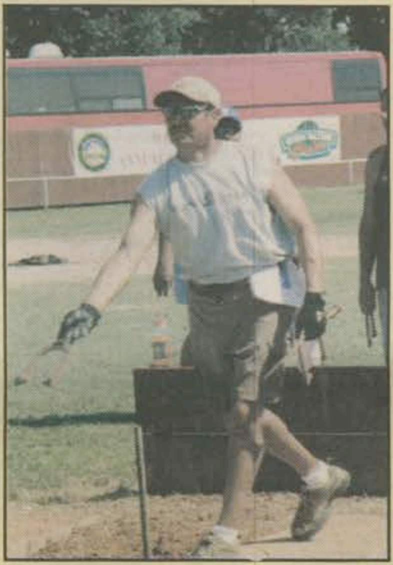
Mary Howard displays her art to even the youngest of spectators.

A volleyball player gets ready to volley with the other team.

Royalty greets the crowd as they pass during the parade.

One of the many cultural activities was clay pot molding for youth.

18yrs and under compete for the basketball title



Setting up to throw a ringer.

Perfect weather to enjoy some exciting games of softball.

A 5k runner heads for the finish line.

Rev. Harry Long receives his Living Legend Award by Chief Ellis.

A more thorough listing of the festival events will be posted on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation official web site which will include photos. Visit the web site at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov August 5th.

Muscogee Graduates

2005

Congratulations 2005 Graduates

Name: Melissa Allen
School: Platt College
Parents: Arman & Irene Tiger
Grandparents: Maternal grandparents were the late Rev. C.D. & Marie Harjo. Paternal Grandparents was the late Jim & Rachel Gutierre.
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Awards: Director's Honors roll award
Plans: to be a Medical Assistant and Phlebotomy Technician

Name: Matthew Ryan Barnett
School: Charles Page High
Parents: Richard & Debbie Barnett
Grandparents: Maternal Grandparents are Bettye Aron and the late William Gordon Aaron; Paternal grandparents are Beatrice Deere & the late Rev. Jackson Deere.
Clan: beaver
Awards: Oklahoma Heritage Association Scholarship
Activities: senior representative of the Native American Association and a delegate from Sand Springs to the 2004-2005 Native American Youth Leadership Conference held in Tulsa; active in Cornerstone Community Church
Plans: to attend a missionary trip to Japan this summer held in Tulsa

Name: Amber M. Beaver
School: Mesquite High School
Clan: Eco
Tribal Town: Hickory Ground
Parents: Franklin & Leann Beaver and the late Marsha Beaver
Grandparents: Clarance & Ermalinda Beaver
Awards: Mesquite Leadership
Activities: Student Council, Drill Team, Choir, Mesquite Crime Stoppers, Junior Leadership, J.V. Drill Instructor, Piano & Voice Lessons.
Plans: Dentistry at OU

Name: Amy Michelle Cobbs
School: Edmond North High
Parents: John and Saundra Cobbs
Grandparents: Howard and Pauline Parker, Don and Wanema Cobbs
Awards: Valedictorian, Gates Millennium Scholar, Indian Honor Society, National Honor Society, Scholastic Achievement Awards (Biology, Pre-AP Chemistry, Pre-AP English), Volleyball All State Athlete
Activities: Youth Leadership Edmond, Senior Mentor, Church Youth Group
Plans: to attend Oklahoma State University where she intends to pursue a degree in Education.

Congratulations 2005 Graduates

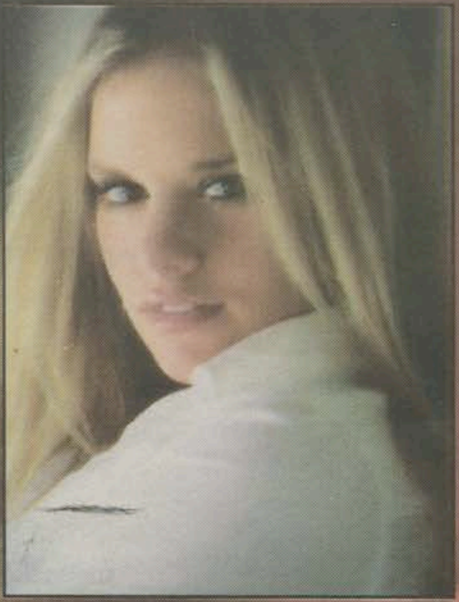
Name: Talia Culley
School: Pontotoc Technology Center
Clan: Alligator
Ceremonial Ground: Okfuskee
Parents: Farron and Irene Culley
Grandparents: Late Amos and the late Juanita Harjochee, and Lorene Culley and the late Paul Culley
Awards: she graduated with a 4.0
Plans: to work on an OB floor

Name: Chelsy Ann Dunlap
School: Charles Page High School
Parents: Tracy & Pick Phillips and Robert Dunlap
Grandparents: Anita Coleen Tiger Young and Doyle Young
Activities: active member of Big Brothers & Sisters, FCCLA, Quill & Scroll, NASA, and the section editor for the Journalism Department.
Plans: to attend Northeastern State University in Tahlequah Fall 2005 and [illegible] a teacher.

Name: Eric John Giles
School: University of Oklahoma
Degree: Dual Masters in City Planning and Public Administration
Clan: Panther
Tribal Town: Broken Arrow
Parents: John and Marcella Burgess Giles
Grandparents: Yahola and Lahoma Burgess
Activities: Lacrosse, Running, and Traveling Oregon and Colorado
Plans: to become Principal Chief of the Mvskoke Nation or reform the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Name: Amanda (Mandy) Louise Guthrie
School: Cleveland High School
Parents: Jeff and Kathy Guthrie
Grandparents: Cogee Keith-Long, Dave Long and the late Walter Keith, the late Avery Guthrie and Ruth Briggs. Great Granddaughter of the Late Principal Chief, Claude Cox and Louise Cox.
Awards: Defensive Player of the year for softball and received awards in biology and history, and principal and superintendent honor roll.
Activities: played softball, basketball; baseball manager; member of National Honor Society, Oklahoma Honor Society, FCCLA, AP English Club, FCA and Foreign language club.
Plans: to attend Tulsa Community College to obtain an Associates Degree, where she has received a tuition waiver, and then to NWOSU in Alva, Oklahoma, to obtain her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing.

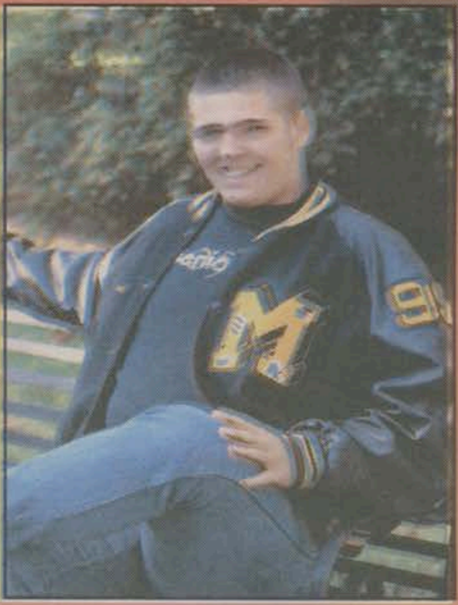
Congratulations 2005 Graduates



Name: Sara Hansen
School: Union High School
Tribal Town: Kellyville
Parents: Stephanie & Tom Cook of Tulsa and Steve Hansen of California
Grandparents: Sara & Phil Winnery of Kellyville
Plans: to study business courses at The University of Arkansas in fall 2005.

Name: Erika Beth Harjo
School: Wilson High School
Parents: Rachel & Jerry Sumka and the late Victor Harjo
Grandparents: Paternal grandparents the late Naomi Harjo and Charlie Harjo. Maternal grandparents are The late John and Minnie Lowe
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Thlopthocco
Awards: Who's Who Among America's High School Student, lettered 3-years in basketball, lettered 1-year in Academic Team; 1-year in softball, key club and FBLA
Plans: to attend OSU-Okmulgee

Name: Monique Crystal Harjo
School: OSU-Okmulgee
Parents: Rachel & Jerry Sumka and the late Victor Harjo
Grandparents: Paternal grandparents are the late Naomie Harjo and Charlie Harjo. Maternal grandparents are the late John and Minnie Lowe.
Clan: Clan
Tribal Town: Thlopthocco
Plans: To further her education at Oklahoma University.



Name: Scott Hood
School: Midway High School
Clan: Alligator
Tribal Town: Weogufkee
Parents: Mike & Brenda Hood
Grandparents: Lucille Hood and the Late Joe Hood Jr. and the late Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Gasaway
Awards: Academic Letterman in Biology II & Zoology. Offensive Lineman of the year, Oklahoma Eight-man All-Stars.
Activities: Senior Class Secretary, Starting Center for Midway Chargers District C-4 Champion football Team, Basketball, Baseball, wrestling, and he also played in the Eufaula All-star game.
Plans: to play in the Oklahoma Eight-man All-star Game at NEO Miami July 18, 2005 and plans to attend college in the Fall.

Congratulations 2005 Graduates

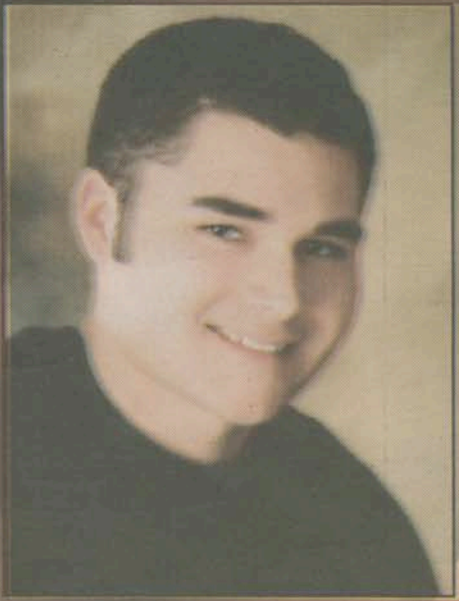
Name: Jodie Evett Howell
School: Glenpool High School
Parents: Brenda Howell and the late Jody Howell
Grandparents: Maternal grandparents are Beatrice Deere and the late Rev. Jackson Deere. Paternal grandparents are the late Jessie and Louise Howell
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Thlopthocco
Awards: Who's Who for her academic acheivements.

Name: Kimberely Marie Howell
School: Glenpool High School
Parents: Brenda Howell and the late Jody Howell
Grandparents: Maternal grandparents are Beatrice Deere and the late Rev. Jackson Deere. Paternal grandparents are the late Jessie and Louise Howell.
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Thlopthocco
Awards: Who's Who for her Academic Achievements
Activities: NASA club, soccer, track, and cross country
Plans: to attend NSU

Name: Billie Lea Hughes
School: Wetumka High School
Parents: Bill & Sandra Smith and the late Dewayne Hughes
Grandparents: the late Raymond and Billie Hughes and Mary and the late Buddy Hamil
Awards: Superintendent's honor roll and was class delegate for HCC.
Activities: cheerleader for 2yrs softball, softball for 1 yr.
Plans: to attend ECU in the fall, she plans to become a registered nurse.

Name: Jami Renae Jackson
School: Broken Arrow High
Parents: Jeff and Tamara Jackson
Grandparents: James and Betty Eash
Activities: member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Manager of Broken Arrow Basketball team, she is interested in meteorology, computers, health care
Plans: to attend Tulsa Community College and then transferring to Oklahoma University.

Congratulations 2005 Graduates



Name: Eric Matthew Jones
School: Westmoore High School
Parents: Randy & Charlotte Jones of Oklahoma City
Activities: he is a member of National Honor Society and the Westmoore football team.
Awards: Top 10% of his class of 610, he carried a 4.0 GPC, received the Certificate of Distinction, is a member of National Honor Society and he received the OCU Native American Academic Scholarship, ONEOK (ONG) 4-years scholarship, OCU Achievement Scholarship and the Petree Arts and Science Scholarship.
Plans: to attend Oklahoma City University in the fall. His goal is to become a physical therapist.

Name: Melissa Renee Jones
School: University of Oklahoma
Parents: Randy & Charlotte Jones of Oklahoma City
Awards: Deans Honor roll and Certificate of Distinction
Activities: Phi Delta Sigma Pi, Gamma Phi Beta and Beta Alpha Psi
Plans: to take CPA exam this summer and begin new job as a corporate auditor in September with KPMG, a nationally recognized accounting firm.

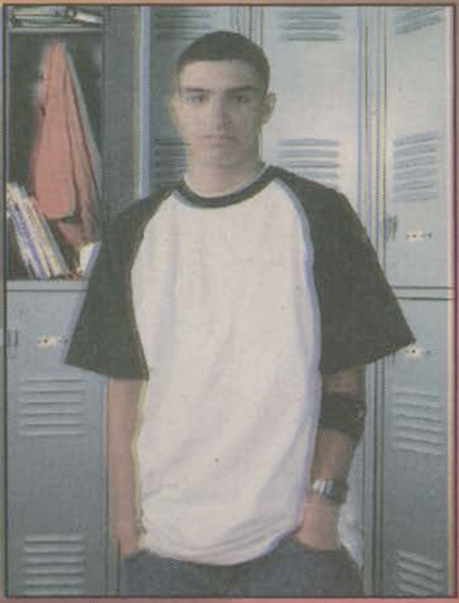
Name: Patricia L. Kaseca
School: Rogers State University
Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Jesse G. Harrison
Awards: RSU Scholarship and Creek nation Higher education Incentive Awards for GPA above 3.0. Published articles: essay on Native Americans and boarding schools in "Guide to College Writing," 5th Edition , 2004. 1st Annual Rogers State University Writing contest, 2nd place winner- Best short Story, 2005. Recipient: RSU Native American student Association honor medal, Claremore Pow-Wow, 2005. Speaker: Aboriginal Women's Conference-Moree, Nsw, Australia, Oc-

Tumissah 05

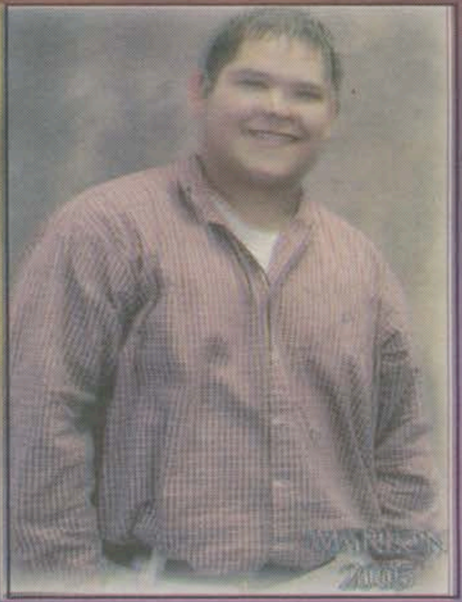
Name: Tumissah S. Lindsey
School: Okmulgee High School
Clan: Wind
Ceremonial Ground: Nuyaka and Weogufkee
Parents: late Alex L. Lindsey, Susie A. and Bill Deo Jr.
Grandparents: Amy Hill and the late Sam Watson, the late Melissa Wacoche and the late Buddy Lindsey Sr.
Awards: Who's Who's, National Honor Roll and Indian Club Treasurer
Plans: to attend College to become a Social Worker and the help our Community.

Congratulations 2005 Graduates

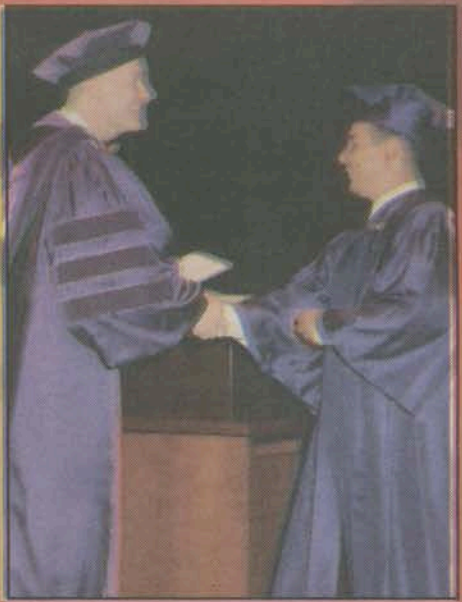
Name: Lacey Montemayor
School: Northwest Classen High School
Parents: Wendy and Wesley Montemayor
Grandparents: Liz Yahola and the late Sonny Dunson of Okemah, Thelma Jean Nunn of Wetumka
Awards: NWC Banner award and Student of Excellence Award
Activities: Captain Fast and Slow-pitch softball team, President Native American Club, served as the 2004-05 Oklahoma City Muscogee Assoc. Princess and is the current Miss Indian Oklahoma City.



Name: Jayce Michael Mosquito
School: Mounds High
Clan: Bird
Parents: Craig and Debbie Mosquito
Grandparents: Willie Joe Mosquito and the late Lena Mosquito of Hectorville and the late Tom and Mary Shirley of Okmulgee
Awards: Principal's Honor Roll, Mounds Native American Scholarship recipient, and Who's Who in Sports.
Activities: Baseball for 4yrs., playing any position. Mounds baseball seasoned ended this year with a 24 and 5 record, with Jayce batting .519. He made Mounds Baseball Most Valuable Player and All Conference player in the Frisco Conference.



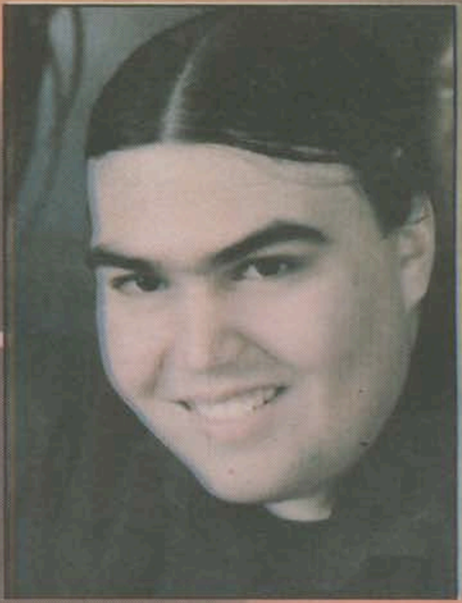
Name: Marlon James Roberts
School: Olive High School
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Nuyaka
Parent: Lucy Cloud
Grandparents: Elizabeth and the late Harley Roberts
Awards: Principal's Honor Roll
Activities: played Baseball
Plans: to work this summer and attend Central Vo-tech in Drumright, majoring in Construction Trades.



Name: Scott Stafford
School: TCU
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Duck Creek
Parents: Ronald & Teresa Stafford
Grandparents: Gene & Loda (Brown) Stafford and John & Suzie Thoraton Helms
Awards: Dean's List and Outstanding Business Student
Activities: Beta Alpha Psi-Accounting Honor Society
Plans: to attend Graduate School and obtain a CPA.

Congratulations 2005 Graduates

Name: Angel Fortner Stone
School: OSU - TULSA
Parents: Patti Fortner and Gary Fortner (deceased)
Grandparents: Gennie Tiger Stone (deceased) of Holdenville; Leon Stone (deceased) of Sand Springs; and Florence (deceased) & Harold Brown (deceased) of Sand Springs.
Plans: To start on my masters degree in August.



Name: Reuben Jesse Sullivan
School: Broken Arrow High School
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Tulsa Canadian
Parents: Ollie and Cathy Sullivan
Grandparents: Jesse and Leona Sullivan
Plans: to attend Oklahoma City University and major in Computer Science.

Name: Alina Lee Welch
School: Inola High School
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Alabama
Parents: Willard Dean Welch and Lorrie Ann Welch
Grandparents: Late Mary Lee (Scott) Hong, Robert Lee Law and Delores Ann Law
Awards: 13 year club; Stars recognition working after school with students; Track; FCCLA writing contest; 3 year club choir; Principal and Counselor Scholarship to NEO Miami; Norsemen Scholarship for Athletic Training.
Activities: Basketball, Track, FCCLA, Choir, FCA, Youth Drama and Choir at First Baptist Inola, attending Powwows and Reading
Plans: to attend NEO Miami in the fall on an athletic training Scholarship. She will receive her associate degree in 2 years and then attend OSU to complete her degree in Sports medicine. Then pursue a job in a wellness center or with an athletic team.

Name: Cicely [illegible] Williams
School: Victory Christian School
Parent: Francine Grayson
Grandparents: Eugine & Maxine Grayson
Great-grandparents: Eli & Fannie Grayson
Awards: "Life award" for student enrollment from K-4 through 12th grade; Female Athlete of the year; Honor Roll
Activities: Volleyball; Basketball, Varsity Cheerleading (captain); participated in the various International Student Mission Trips.
Plans: to attend Oral Roberts University where she will major in Business Adminisration.

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
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Transit program begins; routes planned for four corners of Creek Nation boundary area

OKMULGEE — On August 22, a new era began for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Jeannie Sands, Okmulgee Travel Plaza employee, was the first passenger to ride a bus from her place of employment to her home in Okemah. She now rides the bus from the Pharoah I-40 area to work Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Pictured above, from left to right, is the Transit Authority staff: back row, Johnny Morgan, Ben Chaney, Dan Beasley, middle row, Sherri Haynes, Christine Rogers, and Jeannie Sands.

The buses will be running regular routes from basically the four corners of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Present routes are running to full capacity and reservations must be made between the hours of 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. for the next day.

The Holdenville A.M. Route starts at the Holdenville Community Center at 6 a.m. and travels through Yeager, Wetumka, Weleetka, and Wilson Community Centers. This bus also stops at Pharoah I-40 area, Cowpoke's Restaurant, and at Pigout Palace in Henryetta reaching the Tribal Complex at approximately 7:50 a.m.

The Sapulpa Glenpool route begins at the Bristow Community Center at 6:00 a.m. and travels through Sapulpa

please see **ROUTE**..., page 16

Chief Ellis, Veteran's Affairs Director and National Council members propose 160 acre Veterans' Village

Pictured above, left to right: Anthony Notaro, Sue Johnson, Ken Davis, and Chief A.D. Ellis.

photo by Carla Brown

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Veterans Affairs Director, Ken Davis, and National Council Representatives, Sue Johnson and Anthony Notaro, have joined efforts to propose a 160 acre subdivision that will include 80, one-acre housing plots for Armed Forces Veterans. Possible sites for the Veterans' Village are Hanna and Eufaula. Davis has scheduled a special ceremony in recognition of Veteran's Day on Nov. 10 at 11 a.m. A march in pass and review will be held in front of the Mound Auditorium. Veterans attending are asked to contact the Veterans Affairs Office at (918) 732-7739 to register.

National Council election brings forth new changes; at least five seats have changed with nine runoffs to be held

OKMULGEE — On Sept. 17, elections were held for seats on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council. Unofficially, at least five seats will change and nine runoffs are scheduled to be held on Nov. 5.

The following is a list of the seats that have changed: Robert LaGrone, Muskogee - Seat B; Mose "Pete" Beaver, Muskogee - Seat A; Jeff Fife, Okmulgee - Seat B; Samuel Alexander, Tulsa - Seat D; and Johnnie Greene, Wagoner - Seat B. Election results become official once the protest filing period ends, which is Friday, Sept. 23 after 5 p.m.

Nine seats will be determined by a general runoff election on Nov. 5. The following is a list of runoffs: Okmulgee - Seat A, Robert Jones and David Lewis; Okmulgee - Seat D, Rita Williams and Bo Johnson; Okmulgee - Seat E, David Nichols and James Jennings; Okfuskee - Seat A, Nancy Watson and Travis Scott; Okfuskee - Seat B, Lena Wind and Mae Jackson; Okfuskee - Seat C, Sandra Golden and Bill Fife; McIntosh - Seat C, Thomas McIntosh and Bobby Jones; Tukvpvtce - Seat A, Nathan Buck and Sylvanna Caldwell; and Tukvpvtce - Seat C, Shirlene Ade and Rufus Scott.

Precinct registration open on Sept. 22. Absentee registration is closed for this year's election.

For more information, contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7685.

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Sports: Okemah area youngsters getting their kicks • Page 24

Commended for excellent program

Editor:

On behalf of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center, I want to commend you, your staff and all the volunteers for the excellent program for Senior Day, June 17, 2005.

The day was well planned, involving good prizes, fun games and great food. Honoring the allottees, visiting with the Chief and our Creek Royalty was the highlight of the program

I look forward to next year's Senior Day.

Sincerely,

Leona Fish, Sergeant-at-Arms
Tulsa Creek Community

Nurse selected for investment program

Editor:

My name is Marquetta Harrison. I am one of the 10 LPN's who was selected for the nurse investment program. I was recommended by Sue Johnson, National Council Representative. I appreciate the letter of recommendation from her.

I saw the notice in the Muskogee Phoenix newspaper and thought it over many times and made the decision to try it. I had many things to consider: I am 50 years old, I would have to drive 90 miles to school and back everyday, and could I work a full time job and go to school. I was definitely shocked when I was accepted, afterall I am 50 years old and I really thought the younger women who applied would get this wonderful opportunity. The reason I think the young women should have first priority is because when I was a young woman I was a single mom and it was rough supporting a family on my own. Needless to say, Sue told me older nurses were needed because of our vast life and nursing experiences. I had to agree, some of my very great nursing friends and mentors are in their 60's and 70's.

It is great to go to school again. I have always loved learning and improving myself. I believe you are never to old to learn but it is scary wondering if you can go to a University and master all the requirements and have the endurance to be successful. Of course, I was very skeptical at times. I have the most caring, intelligent and supportive nursing instructors. I give my highest regard and deep respect to Dr. Pam Price-Hoskins, Leah Tolbert, and Jana Martin. These ladies not only taught me nursing, they taught me not to set myself up to fail and gave me never-ending encouragement. There is also a very special lady, Sunny Williams, who answers all my questions and makes my life more simple. Thank you Sunny. To Danna Minnick, Jerry Wilson, and Mike Flud, thank you and the Creek Nation for allowing me to become one of the Muscogee Creek Nation RN's.

I also appreciate my Creek Cheerleaders, the ladies who sang at our Induction Ceremony when we were introduced to the VIP's. They gave me inspiration when they shook my hand and wished me well. The beautiful stethoscope and nurses bag for Nurse's Day was so special, on top of the scholarship, school supplies and nursing uniforms. Last of all, Muscogee Creek Nation, thank you for giving me the chance to be someone and given the knowledge to not only care for but teach our people and all people.

Marquetta Harrison LPN-RN
OSU Student - Muskogee

Band thanks Creek Festival coordinators

Editor:

I just want to thank all those responsible for the planning and coordinating the Creek Music Festival. This year's festival was the best our band has attended this summer. Ruth Bible and Barney Ingram were so helpful and available with assisting the bands. The sound system was already in place thanks to Oklahoma City Backup. All we had to do was plug in and start playing. Mvto for the refreshments and BBQ dinner after the performances.

Leon Russell, Indigenous, Ulali and Chris Zalez. Chebon Tiger, Jr. Markham, and all the other performers were exceptional and we were honored to share the stage with them. We have been to the Creek Festival at least five times to perform and this year had the largest crowd we ever witnessed. The only way this was possible was by advertising and planning. Congratulations on such a successful musical event.

Cecil Gray, Red Dawn Blues Band
Oklahoma City

Send in the clowns

Editor:

I can see government officials now, their party hats sitting at a jaunty angles, red balls for noses, their long comical shoes atop their desks, saying things like, "It's a slam dunk." And why wouldn't they? They promised such unbelievable benefits to voters that passing SQ 712 was a forgone conclusion. No wonder this clown-like atmosphere; from all appearances SQ 712 was put to together by representatives from Clowns International. SQ 712 is not only brainless, but has all the characteristics of immoral self-indulgence.

The aim of this law is to take from those who have no political power, Native Americans and the poor, to make life better for them and their cronies while not sacrificing a dime in the process. The state figured out that low-income Oklahomans smoke and they can shift the state's tax burden on them since they can't fight back.

It's the poor who's vice needs to be taxed. The state says that "since smoking is a voluntary act, taxing smokers is entirely appropriate," (where it is not appropriate to tax those who eat voluminous meals of fried, grease laden, okra, which is also dangerous and voluntary.)

The "haves" always make sure they don't have to sacrifice in times of crisis, in fact they use or manufacture calamity to enrich themselves. The smoking tax is an example of the powerful and influential manipulating the public for self gain. And once again the poor of Oklahoma is carrying the tax load for the affluent.

Native Americans are fearful that again the government is taking unfair advantage by using the law to block their right to compete with what is supposed to be a free enterprise system and diminishing their chance to establish a financial

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please see **LETTERS**..., page 14

Muscogee Nation News

Members of the following two associations:

NAJA
Native American Journalist Association

NAPP
The National Association of Photoshop Professionals

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

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Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello friends and fellow citizens,

September is probably the busiest time of our year with the annual budget due and new programs to start, plus it's election time again for all National Council seats. There seems to be a lot of interest this election because over 2,000 absentee voters have requested a ballot. This is considerable more than in the last chiefs race. All citizens can watch the political forums on the Creek Nation web site. muscogeenation-nsn.gov. If you want to see the candidates in action, tune in to the internet and watch.

An old problem that we are working hard to solve is the huge backlog that we have with new application for citizenship. We need to streamline our tribal citizenship office into the 21st century.

Many laws concerning operation which was written twenty or thirty years ago needs updated to comply with today's standards. Most of our tribal transit buses are now operating on the designated bus routes. Ben Chaney informed me this morning of the existing routes running full. Later this month the Eufaula, Hanna, Dewar and Henryetta route will be in operation. This is a great program and other tribes are looking to the Creek Nation to help start their own Transit system.

We are looking forward to the annual meeting of churches and religious leaders which is scheduled for Saturday October 1st. This will be in the Mound Building at 10 a.m. We encourage all church leaders to attend and voice their concerns or appreciation.

Another great gathering is starting the last week of October in Tulsa. The National Congress of American Indians are meeting in Tulsa for a week. This is the first time in over twenty -five years this meeting has been held back in Tulsa.

We are expecting over 3,000 tribal leaders from throughout America who will represent their own nations. Headquarters will be at the Crown Plaza Hotel with trade show and general assembly in the convention center downtown.

Other happenings are the Tulsa Casino expansion should be completed by October 1st. Coweta Clinic is on schedule to finish by May 6th. A new headstart and bus terminal will break ground sometime in October. Groundbreaking for the new $110 million dollar Riverside Casino may be in October or November of this year. Large expansions are under process for Eufaula, Okemah and Duck Creek Casinos, providing more income for each community and the Nation. We are currently considering a new clinic in the Eufaula area and a nursing home in another area south of I-40.

I want to again urge all tribal citizens to be sure that all family and friends have a citizenship card. Yesterday a grieving mother who lost her son was refused burial assistance because the son only had a C.D.I.B. card. You must have a tribal citizenship card. It's a shame that a creek tribal member is refused help due to a piece of plastic but that's the law.

Quote of the Month *"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."*

MVTO

Second opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

The recent Hurricane Katrina and gas prices are on most people's mind at this time. I noticed today (9-12-05) that our Okmulgee Travel Plaza is selling gas for $2.60 a gallon. A few months ago, we were complaining about $1.89 a gallon, but today we think $2.60 is cheap. My how easily we can be swayed when it comes to our pocket book. Long are gone the days when we thought a man's word was his bond.

The following is an excerpt from "THE LAND WHERE WE BELONG" published by Leisure Time Publishing Inc., Dallas, TX 1990. Recorded by Denise Matal:

Just a dozen miles north of Claremore is the cowboy philosopher's birthplace at Will Rogers State Park near Oologah, sometimes called the White House on the Verdigris River.

Rogers once wrote: "When I was born, it was at our old ranch. It was a big two story log house, but on the back we had three rooms made of frame. Just before my birth my mother, being in one of these frame rooms, had them remove her into the log house. She wanted me to be born in a log house. She had just read the Life of Lincoln. So I got the log house end of it O.K.; all I need now is the other qualifications."

He had most of them and they were all spiced with humor. Indian blood also ran through his veins. And of this, he was proud. Rogers loved to tell people, "My ancestors did not come over on the Mayflower, but they met the boat."

Will Rogers could always be counted on to stand up and fight for the common man. He came to the defense of the Creek Indians, even when it seemed no one else would.

He had heard that the Creek Council House was in danger of being torn down, according to the city Fathers of Okmulgee, for the sake of progress. So Rogers struck out for Okmulgee and in a voluntary and impromptu speech from the stage of the town's Hippodrome Theater in 1926, he said. "They took me over to see your Council House. I like that. They tell me that some of your businessmen want to tear it down. I'd think twice before doing that. The folks that built that building were in this country before you oil men."

If you tear the Council House down, what would you put up? You'd erect some other building. You don't want this town like all the rest. Don't build a Ford town.

Every place I go you can see an Owl Drug Store on one corner, a filling station on another, a hamburger stand, and branch bank on the others. Don't build your town that way. I hear some folks want to put a post office or hotel over there. You can go to any town in the country and find a post office and a hotel, but there is only one town in the world you can find a Creek Council House. That's Okmulgee."

Okmulgee heeded his words. The city got together, passed a $100,000 bond issue, and purchased the sacred patch of soil, forever preserving a rare cornerstone of Oklahoma heritage and tradition.

The ancient beige two-story sandstone building stands in the shade of draping elms, an aging aristocrat in the heart of downtown Okmulgee. It is now on the Register of National Historic Sites. And even though Creek Indian leaders still journey to the staid old Council House to discuss matters of tribal significance, it is also open daily as a museum, showcasing archives and artifacts that depict the tribe's past and its contributions to the legacy of Oklahoma.

The Creek Government was already established when the Council House was built in 1878. Only a decade before, the Creeks had written their own constitution, which was eventually adopted throughout the whole Creek Nation.

A Supreme Court handed down the justice of simple laws, those that possessed neither verbal window dressing nor legal loopholes. And the law enforcement agency, men with badges who rode to the far corners of the proud, stubborn land, was known as the Lighthorse.

Years ago, we had the good fortune of meeting E.C. Lambert within those walls. He had been former president of the Creek Indian Memorial Association, and he talked reverently of the Council House as though it was an old friend. Perhaps it was. After all, Lambert had come to Okmulgee the year Oklahoma achieved statehood and was the first student enrolled at the University of Oklahoma. He had known the land and its legends for a ling time. The Council House had become a part of him. Maybe it was more like kin.

He told us, "Back in 1836, those first Creeks were driven from their homes in Alabama and Georgia by the government and brought here to Eastern Oklahoma. It was a long road and a sad one. More than twenty percent of the tribe died along the way and never made it. They called it the trail where they cried.

"For them all, it was a trail of broken promises."

Lambert glanced upward toward the second floor landing and said, "Up those winding stairs are the House of Warriors and House of Kings, the governing bodies of the Creeks. Many a warrior and statesman climbed those old forking stairways, seeking tribal justice or petitioning the Great White Father, who never seemed to hear them."

please see **BERRYHILL...**, page 16

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the December 2, 2004, extraordinary session.

December 2, Extraordinary session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvcte District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District;

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
2004

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

representatives **Cherrah Quiett** arrived during committee as-a-whole;

representative **Keeper Johnson** arrived during the rise and report;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 04-129, authorizing the Principal Chief to prepare and submit an application for a community Development Block Grant to obtain funding for the construction of an all-purpose facility located at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Omniplex;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 04-224, appropriating matching funds for the construction of an all-purpose building at the Creek Nation Omniplex;

Council went into executive session;

Representative **Tom Pickering** arrived during executive session;

July 12, Extraordinary session

Absent were: George Tiger, Creek; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Sue Johnson**, Muskogee; **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

representative **Ade, Bible, Harjo, S. Johnson, Pickering** and **Tiger** arrived before rise and report;

• approved (19-5-0) TR 05-110, authorizing the Principal Chief to submit a bid sufficient to acquire ownership of the Fountainhead Resort Property located in McIntosh County, Oklahoma, which is to be sold by Sheriff's sale on July 26, 2005;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Hufft**, Tulsa;

• failed (11-13-0) NCA 05-102, appropriating funds for the purchase of Real Property in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

July 25, Emergency session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; Thomas **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee **Shirlene Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtee District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Representative **Ade** arrived before any business was taken;

In order of business the Council:

representative **Quiett** and **Harjo** arrived before vote count was taken;

• approved as amended (15-4-0) TR 05-030, authorizing and adopting the alternative housing policy of the housing division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Quiett**, Tulsa;

representative **McIntosh** arrived;

• postpone (20-0-0) TR 05-031) authorizing and adopting the emergency rental assistance policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

representative **Cleghorn** arrived;

• approved as amended (21-0-0) TR 05-032, authorizing and adopting the rehabilitation of privately owned homes policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved as amended (21-0-0) TR 05-033, authorizing and adopting the emergency rehabilitation of privately owned homes policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

representatives **Wind** and **Pickering** were out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (19-0-0) TR 05-034, authorizing and adopting the Temporary relocation Policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-085, authorizing and adopting the grievance policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-086, authorizing and adopting the conflict of interest policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-087, authorizing and adopting the admission, eligibility and occupancy policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-088, authorizing and adopting the payments and rents policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-089, authorizing and adopting the collection policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-090, authorizing and adopting the value improvement (VIP) policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

July 30, Quarterly session

Absent were: **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Lena Wind**, Okfuskee-excused; **Robert Jones**, Okmulgee; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce-excused; and **Robert Hufft**;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

representative **Hufft** arrived;

In order of business the Council:

• approved as amended (21-0-0) TR 05-081, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to expand parking at Creek Nation Tulsa Casino and to execute;

• approved as amended (21-0-0) TR 05-084, authorizing the Principal Chief to enter into a financing agreement with JP Morgan Chase, N.A. to temporarily fund the construction of the new casino at Riverside Drive until permanent financing can be obtained

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-093, accepting the terms and conditions of the Fuelman Fleetcor technologies, Inc. For Fleetcor to provide business fleet gasoline services to vehicles owned by the nation;

• postponed (21-0-0) TR 05-096, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a Treaty of Peace and Friendship between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Seneca-Cayuga tribe of Oklahoma;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-098, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute the master equipment lease-purchase agreement between the Ford Motor Credit Company and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-101, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Business lease between the Creek Foundation, Inc. and the site of the section 202/8 Elderly Housing apartment complex;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 05-106, approving a wireless service agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Dobson Cellular Systems, Inc. for cellular phones for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration;

representative **Watson** arrived;

Speaker **Yahola** relinquished the chair to Second Speaker **Richard Berryhill** to address TR 05-011;

• approved (21-1-0) TR 05-011, authorizing the Principal Chief to make a contribution on behalf of the nation to the Indian Health Service to offset the costs associated with providing individual water and sewer facilities to eighty Indian Homes located within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

Second **Speaker Berryhill** turned the chair back to Speaker **Yahola**;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-112, authorizing the Princi-

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 9

Ken Childers honored with dedication

The Coweta American Wednesday, August 24, 2005

COWETA — The eyes of a community were on the Coweta Roundup Club Arena Friday, August 19 when the arena was renamed in honor of one of Coweta's proudest cowboys, the late Ken Childers. Childers, a longtime member of the Coweta Roundup Club, died unexpectedly in February. During his lifetime he became well known for his bullriding, and he was instrumental in helping the club get its new arena at the Wagoner County Fairgrounds.

By proclamation of the Wagoner County Commissioners, the Coweta Roundup Club Arena was renamed the Ken Childers Arena.

Childers' children, Kenny Childers, Jr. and Jana Rae Salyton, his sisters, Barbara Gillespie and Joyce Bear, his grandchildren Chase and Dallas Childers and Megan, Mason, Jake, Mack, Ike and Hank Slayton, his companion Crete Kelley and other family members watched with tear filled eyes as the new arena sign bearing his name was unveiled on the north end of the arena.

"Kenny's name will carry on with something (arena) he would have enjoyed and been proud of," Childers' longtime friend Buck Meehan read from the proclamation.

Commissioner Jim Hargrove, reading from a statement by fellow commissioner and former State Rep. Jerry Hefner, said "Childers would have been very humbled with the honor."

"I believe he left a lasting impression on everyone he met," Hargrove said. "To a dear and good friend, we will miss very much."

Buck Meehan, left, and Wagoner County District 3 Commissioner Jim Hargrove, right, present the family of the late Ken Childers, Sr. with a proclamation announcing a name change at the Coweta Roundup Club Arena in Coweta to the Ken Childers Arena. Accepting the proclamation are Childers' children, Ken Childers, Jr. and Jana Rae Slayton, and his sisters, Barbara Gillespie and Joyce Bear.

photo courtesy of Coweta American

Shortly after Childers died in February, Coweta Roundup Club members tried to come up with an idea to pay tribute to their friend and supporter.

"It crossed everyone's mind after Ken passed to do something," Playday Director Cheryl Jones said. "Ken was instrumental in getting all the grants to build this arena. Helping him as well, were longtime Marvin Fletcher and Jerry Hefner."

When the decision was made to rename the arena, everyone went to work.

"We asked for the family's permission and they were very excited and very appreciative," Jones noted. "Ken put his heart and soul into that Roundup Club and everything he did was for them."

Childers' daughter, Jana Rae Slayton, said the family was speechless when they learned of such an honor and tribute to their loved one.

"I don't think he ever intended for anything like that to ever take place. He wasn't that type of person," Slayton explained. "But for us and his family, having a county facility and having his name on it is such an honor."

Slayton said her dad went to the county seeking help for the arena when it faced a relocation from the west side of town because he loved his hometown so much.

"He hated to see the arena get a lease for only two or three years," she said. "Now they (Roundup Club) will have a place where they will always have an arena. It's something that will be here for a long time. He loved rodeo and he loved Coweta. It will be so neat to drive by that arena and see his name. That's who he was!" Slayton exclaimed.

She is proud to know that some of her father's greatest friends and biggest supporters teamed up to design and build the arena sign bearing his name — firefighter and fellow Creek Nation citizen Mauriece Atkins, Don and Donnie Jackson at D&D Signs and Roundup Club member Marvin Fletcher.

"I can't tell you the words to say the honor that these people have given my dad, still," Slayton commented "It lets me know they loved him as much as anybody. These are small town Coweta people who took time to do this. It is such an honor!"

Childers started riding bulls when he got out of the Navy in 1962. He also attended horseshoeing school.

"Dad was around horses all his life," Salyton noted. "He grew up riding horses, he and a lifelong buddy went bareback riding down Indian Road all summer long. He grew up being a cowboy and turned into a cowboy when he went to Texas."

When Childers moved to Coweta in 1969, he started building clientele with his horsehoeing skills. He later got involved in the Roundup Club.

Having built his own buckout arena on the family property, Childers started helping the Roundup Club when the search began in recent years for a site to relocate its arena. He worked with his friend, Jerry Joice, Marving Fletcher, Jerry Hefner and Jim Hargrove on the project.

Friday's program included the presentation of a Creek hymn by Childers' sisters, Barbara Gillespie and Joyce Bear. Childers' longtime friend Ed Rutherford closed the evening in prayer, offering special words for the Coweta Roundup Club family.

COMMUNITY MEETING

STOCKTON, Calif. — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association will be hosting a Potluck picnic at Oak Park in the Covered Picnic area on Sunday, Oct. 9 from noon until 6 p.m. Oak Park is located at 3545 Alvarado Avenue in Stockton.

This will be the first Gathering for the CMCA in the Stockton/Sacramento area. The CMCA was formed on the premise of educating Muscogee Citizens about the wonderful history and traditions of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy the evening with other Muscogee families from Stockton and Sacramento.

Those attending are asked to bring food, family photos and Creek stories to share with the community. Also, for those who attend and have children from kindergarten through 12th grade, the CMCA will be giving out the $200 per child school clothes voucher applications.

If you are interested in having a CMCA meeting in your community, contact Eli Grayson at cmca@comcast.net or (310) 487-7706.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Scholarships helps Native American nursing students serve rural Oklahoma

OKMULGEE — Marquetta Harrison has wanted to be a nurse ever since she was a young girl. She wanted to help people like the starving and sick children she saw on television.

"I wanted to do more than send money to those children, so a few years ago I went on a medical mission trip to Guatemala," said Harrison. "There, I gave medicine to the sick children and adults who had severe cases of head lice, malaria and other tropical diseases. Then, I trained to become an LPN and have cared for patients in nursing homes for the last eight years. Now, because of my tribe, I have a wonderful opportunity to get my associate's degree in nursing from OSU-Okmulgee so I can be a registered nurse and help people at a more advanced level of healthcare."

Harrison is one of 11 Native American nursing students attending OSU-Okmulgee's new registered nursing program because of scholarships they received from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council. The National Council appropriated $80,000 in scholarships this past January to 11 Native Americans who are Licensed Practical Nurses.

After students graduate from OSU-Okmulgee with their associate degree in nursing, they must pass the registered nurse licensure examination administered by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing. OSU-Okmulgee's registered nursing program, which includes many students who are not Native American, had 38 nursing candidates in the summer 2005 semester.

Thomas Yahola, Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, says, "In order to staff our medical facilities in the future, the National Council members made a wise decision to partner with OSU-Okmulgee. They have exceptional facilities and a highly qualified faculty. We feel these scholarships will encourage Native American students to complete their education and provide high quality health care in our rural communities."

Upon graduation from the degree program, the nurses will work a year for a Muscogee (Creek) Nation health care facility in a rural community in Oklahoma in return for each year they received a scholarship.

Harrison and several other scholarship recipients say they couldn't afford to attend college if it weren't for the financial aid. "I work full-time as an LPN in Muskogee to support myself and my family, so I can't quit my job. I needed the scholarship to afford the tuition, fees, books and uniforms to attend classes at OSU-Okmulgee. It's worth the 90 mile a day drive from my home in Muskogee to become a registered nurse."

According to Jerry Wilson, Chair of OSU-Okmulgee's Health and Environmental Technologies Division, the Muscogee (Creek) National Council is helping fill many needs with their scholarship program. "There's a need for nurses nationwide. There's a need for quality healthcare providers in rural communities. There's a need for the Creek Nation to build a workforce to staff their medical facilities. And the scholarship recipients have the need for financial aid to attend college and advance their careers."

OSU-Okmulgee's nursing program began in the fall 2004 semester. Dr. Pam Price-Hoskins, Administrator of the program, says some of its core elements are based on the concepts of Native American nursing — caring, tradition, respect, connection, holism, trust and spirituality — which were developed by Dr. John Lowe and Roxanne Struthers. Lowe heads a research project called "Nursing and the Native American Culture" at Florida International University.

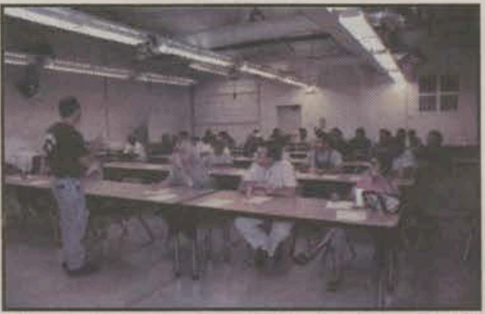
OSU-Okmulgee's RN program is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and is awaiting a voluntary accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc. Eight students will graduate in August; more students will be admitted in the fall for a total of 58 nursing students.

Harrison says the scholarship is allowing her to fulfill another lifelong dream. "I always wanted to be someone and to do something important. As a nurse, I'm doing both."

Risk Management educates employees on dangers

OKMULGEE — The Risk Management Department paid for a series of training classes for members of the Work Force, Federal Roads, Tribal Driveways, and Facilities, as well as several janitors.

The classes included a First Aid First Responder class, a Blood Borne Pathagens class, OSHA Bodily Fluids class, as well as a CPR certification and training. These classes were designed specifically for the people who are at higher risk of being around dangerous circumstances.


Tribal employees receive instruction on high risk situations.

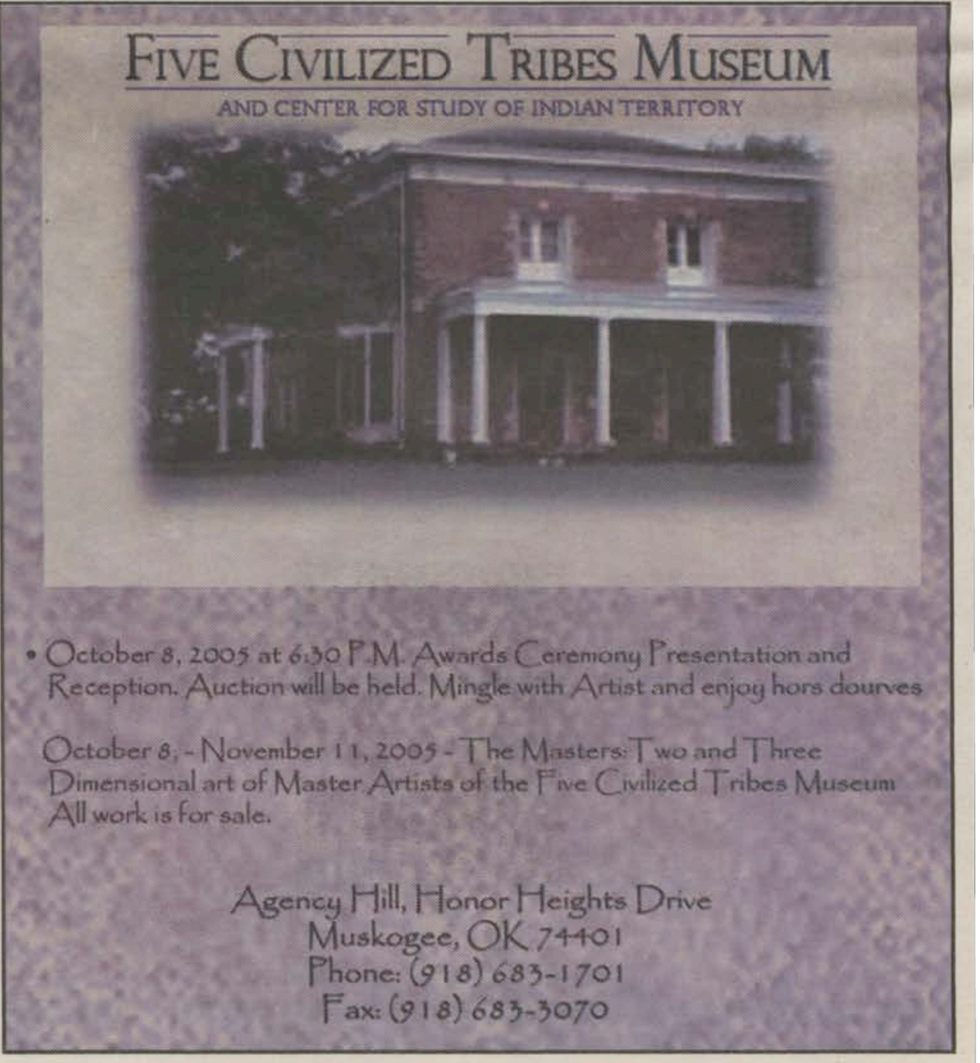
Phil Booker, Risk Management Safety Coordinator, said he looks forward to trying to get these classes set up on a monthly or every two month schedule. He also plans on opening them to a larger number of Creek Nation employees so that if a problem does ever arise, the number of people qualified and trained to deal with it will be sufficient.

Dr. Coser to teach American Indian Leadership Seminar

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation will have Dr. Pete G. Coser teaching its first series seminar course series in Tribal Excellence. Dr. Coser has been actively involved in leadership development focusing on American Indian Leaders. As a very successful advisor, spanning a career of more than 20 years, Dr. Coser has used his leadership skills to guide many American Indian students through their college careers at Oklahoma State University. Students seeking to have a better understanding of American Indian leadership behaviors will be given the opportunity to participate in group leadership exercises that will help develop their leadership skills.

The class will meet on October 17, 19, 24, 26, 31 and November 2 from 5 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in HETD #107.

For enrollment, contact Paula Blair at OSU-Okmulgee Admissions Office at the Reynolds Center at 1-800-722-4471


FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES MUSEUM
AND CENTER FOR STUDY OF INDIAN TERRITORY

- October 8, 2005 at 6:30 P.M. Awards Ceremony Presentation and Reception. Auction will be held. Mingle with Artist and enjoy hors dourves

October 8, - November 11, 2005 - The Masters: Two and Three Dimensional art of Master Artists of the Five Civilized Tribes Museum All work is for sale.

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Muskogee, OK 74401
Phone: (918) 683-1701
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Births

CYRUS EVAN GOODEN

Gooden

TULSA — Cyrus Evan Gooden was born Aug. 15 at Hillcrest Hospital to Douglas and Amber Gooden of Sand Springs.

He was welcomed home by his grandparents Leonard and Delia Westover of Henryetta and Melvin and Tersa Crabtree of Sand Springs.

MADELYN JEAN LUCKEY

DEARBORN, Mich. — Madelyn Jean Luckey was born April 19 at Oakwood Hospital to Stephen George Luckey and Amy Jo Luckey.

Luckey

Madelyn weighed 11 pounds and two ounces. She was 23 1/4 inches long.

She has one sister, Jillian Renea Carlson. Her maternal grandparents are Charles and Norma Lockwood of Harvad, Illinois.

Paternal grandparents are Stephen and Dolly Luckey of Mounds. Her great paternal grandparents are Medford and Lillie Luckey of Calvin, Joe John Edwards of Coweta, and the late Margaret Edwards of Bixby.

Her paternal great, great grandmother is the late Noma Edwards of Bixby.

Birthdays

Fixico turns twelve

BARTLESVILLE — Sonny Ray Fixico celebrated his 12th birthday with friends and family at Incredible Pizza in Tulsa. His birthday was on Monday, July 25.

Fixico

He belongs to the Bear Clan and is a member of the Tuskege Tribal Town.

He is the son of Donna Fixico of Bartlesville and Andrew Fixico of Ramona.

His maternal grandparents are the late Lois and Donald Snyder of Haskell. His paternal grandparents are the late Winey and California Fixico of Holdenville.

Tiger celebrates fourth birthday

OKMULGEE – Ahmiah Rose Tiger celebrated her fourth birthday with a Dora the Explorer theme with family and friends at her home on Sept. 11.

Tiger

Her mother is Rene Tiger and her stepfather is Scott Harjo of Okmulgee.

Ahmiah's maternal grandparents are Rosalie Deerinwater of Okemah and Wilson Tiger Jr. of Okemah.

Ahmiah has one sister, Kaidence Tiger Harjo of Okmulgee.

Wittman celebrates birthday

OKMULGEE — Stormie Wittman celebrated her first birthday with a Fairy Princess theme.

Wittman

Wittman was born to Tammy Checotah and Jerry Wittman of Okmulgee on July 20, 2004 at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa at 11:30 p.m., weighing eight pounds and measuring 19 1/2 inches in length.

Her grandparents are Etta and Everett Checotah of Okmulgee and the late Judy Riley of Bristow.

Her brothers are Nathan Checotah and Ryan Holata (Checotah) of the home and two sisters, Allison and Amber Wittman of Bristow.

Soldier receives promotion

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — In a ceremony at Ft. Lewis, Washington, Muscogee (Creek) soldier, William J. Benham, IV, was promoted to the rank of Sergeant First Class.

He has served in active status in the U.S. Army for the past 12 years. His services has been over much of the world.

Sergeant Benham has also engaged in leadership activities and pursued advanced education while serving in the armed services. He is an example of Muscogee soldiers serving our country in time of need.

In the ceremony at Ft. Lewis, the citation from the Army Chief of Staff reads as follows: *This is to certify that the Department of the Army has reposed special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity, and professional excellence of SSG William J. Benham, IV. In view of these qualities, demonstrated leadership potential and faithful service to the United States Army, effective Sept. 1, 2005.*

Benham

In addition to assignments in the United States, Sergeant Benham has served overseas in Korea, Guantanamo Bay, (Cuba), Kosovo, Turkey and Kuwait. His assignments included various enlisted leadership positions in the medical management field. He has continued to expand his capabilities by military and civilian courses taken and has completed 120 hours toward a Bachelor's of Arts in Health Administration.

Sergeant Benham is continuing a military tradition. He is a descendant of the Creek Confederate Colonel William Robison, through his daughter Lucy Robison Brown Scott. In Angi Debo's book, "The Road to Disappearance," states that after the Civil War, Colonel Robison commanded the Creek soldiers in the Green Peach War.

Sergeant Benham's Aunts are Billye Jo Bruner of Holdenville and Inez Provost of Albuquerque.

Accomplishments

Pearson hired as Executive Director

OKLAHOMA CITY — Mary Pearson was hired as Executive Director of School Support/Title I for the Oklahoma State Department of Education in April.

Pearson has been an educator in state of Oklahoma for almost 20 years. She began her career as a teacher at Creston Hills Elementary. Since then she has served as a teacher at Quail Creek Elementary, Parent Liaison for North Highland Math and Science Academy, Dean of Instruction/ Assistant Principal for Taft Middle School and Hoover Middle School, and most recently, Principal of Willow Brook Elementary located in Midwest City.

She will manage the Comprehensive School Reform (CSR) Program for the State of Oklahoma.

The Comprehensive School Reform (CSR) program is designed to increase student achievement by assisting schools across the state with implementing comprehensive reforms that are grounded in scientifically based research and effective practices.

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National Indian Gaming Association promotes economic development through new strategic partnerships

WASHINGTON D.C. — The National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) has signed a Memo of Understanding with two prominent Native organizations, the American Indian Chamber of Commerce and the Council of Tribal Employment Rights to help promote business and economic development in Indian communities across the country.

The memorandums establish a framework for cooperation between the organizations to increase the availability of contractual and procurement opportunities for American Indian-owned businesses both within and outside of the Indian gaming industry.

"American Indian businesses need thriving relationships with individuals, organizations, and companies in order to prosper," said NIGA chairman Ernest L. Stevens Jr. "Businesses need to be enthusiastic to buy from, work for, supply to and invest in our economies. The more successful Indian-owned businesses we have out there, the more we are able to create opportunities for our people."

Stevens said that small business development is critical in building sustainable tribal economies, and communities are slowly starting to see growth. The latest statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau reported that there were 206,125 American Indian and Alaska Native owned businesses in 2002. The Census Bureau also reports that 25 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native business owners reported working 60 hours or more per week, higher than the average of all business owners.

"It is evident that Indian people are out there working harder than ever to provide for our communities and for the betterment of our people," said Stevens. "And through these strategic partnerships, we hope to stimulate economic success and self sufficiency in every Indian community from coast-to-coast by helping foster and promote Native-owned business."

The National Indian Gaming Association is a nonprofit trade association comprised of 184 American Indian Nations and other nonvoting associate members. The common commitment and purpose of NIGA is to advance the lives of Indian people: economically, socially, and politically. NIGA operates as a clearing house and educational, legislative, and public policy resource for tribes, policymakers, and the public on Indian gaming issues and tribal community development.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tulsa Casino

Creek Nation Tulsa Casino Update

Over the past month, major progress and momentum was made on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's new Tulsa casino. The most exciting item was approval on July 30, 2005 of the interim financing by the National Council and the subsequent signing of the interim financing agreement on August 12. Work on the permanent financing has already begun.

After approval, a Consultant Coordination meeting was held which included discussions on the site plan, environmental issues, floor plans interiors, building exterior, MEP (Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing), code issues, civil engineering, communication and organization for the project, vertical transportation, construction options, and schedule.

Further progress includes a casino business plan in draft form being submitted to the Development Committee for review and authorization. The amended and restated management agreement will be submitted to the National Council for submission to the NIGC.

Promotions

$200,000 Mystery Cash Fall Bash

The bash continues with cash drawings every Monday through Thursday this fall. Don't miss your chance at winning your share of our $200,000 Mystery Cash Fall Bash. Drawings will be held Monday through Thursday at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. At the time of each drawing, a prize amount of either $100, $200, $300, $400, or $500 in cash will be drawn to determine the amount of the drawing, including any unclaimed jackpot money from the previous drawing.

No one knows how high these jackpots may go. The only way that you can find out for yourself is to visit the Players Club and swipe in for a chance to win. If no one claims a drawing after three minutes, the amount drawn will roll over to that time slot the following day and continue to grow.

Grand Prize drawings will be held on October 27th, with an additional $5,000 being added to each time slot's jackpot. Half-hour cash drawings for $100 will occur between 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. An extra $2,500 will be added to the half-hour drawings that occur at 11:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 10:30 p.m. More than $40,000 may be given out on this night!

Don't forget to gain extra entries into the drawing by winning $200 or more on any VGT machine, receiving a suited blackjack at any blackjack table, or receiving a straight or better while playing in the Poker Room.

Daily River Showdown Poker Tournaments

Poker tournaments have arrived! Put on your best poker face and bring it to Creek Nation Casino every day at 9 a.m. for our Daily River Showdown poker tournament. Test your tournament skills against other players to find out who really is the best. The buy-in is only $20 with a $5 entry fee and $5 for dealer's appreciation. The winner of this tournament will receive 50% of the total buy-in from all players, with second place receiving 30%, and third place receiving 20%. These tournament seats will fill up quickly, so be sure to come out early for your chance to win!

Ladies Night Hold'em Tournament

Ladies, stick around after our machine tournaments on Monday evenings to play our new Ladies Only Texas Hold'em poker tournaments at 9 p.m.! Registration begins at 8 p.m. and is open to all ladies of any skill level, with a total buy-in of just $30.

First Place - 50% of the tournament prize pool
Second Place - 30% of the tournament prize pool
Third Place - 20% of the tournament prize pool

What More Could a Guy Ask For?

"What More Could a Guy Ask For?" continues on Wednesday night as we attempt to give one lucky guy a 2006 Hummer H3. A brand new 2006 Hummer H3 is definitely high on every guy's priority list, and we're here to give it to him. Loaded with GPS and satellite radio, this is every guy's dream come true. Men, you can start swiping your cards at the Players Club at 6 p.m. on Wednesday nights. Between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., drawings will be held every half hour with prizes totaling $2,500. At 10 p.m., we will pick two lucky winners to receive $500 plus a key that could start the Hummer H3 on Nov. 30. Guys, don't miss your chance to win over $60,000 in cash and prizes on Wednesdays!

Queen of the Machines

Ladies, cooler weather is here but you could still be soaking up the rays in sunny Cancun with our Queen of the Machines tournament! Swipe your cards starting at 6 p.m. every Monday, because at 7 p.m. 50 ladies will be drawn to compete in our $10 match play tournament. The tournament will be made up of five rounds of ten players, with each round lasting one minute. Players will receive all credits remaining on their machine at the end of the round. The winner of each round will receive $20 in cash to play in the final round of the night totaling $2,500 in cash prizes. Plus, the winner of each week's tournament will win a seat in our Bring Back tournament on December 5th to compete for a trip for two to Cancun!

Council

continued from page 4

pal Chief to execute contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the renovation of the old dental building to house the Bureau of Indian Affairs Okmulgee Agency Office;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-113, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a memorandum of agreement between the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Business Enterprise to renovate the old dental building;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-114, authorizing the Gaming Operations Authority Board to execute a gaming industry tip compliance agreement with the Internal Revenue service to ensure compliance with Federal employment tax laws;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-116, authorizing the Principal Chief to enter into financing agreement with Valley National Bank to replenish the Bingo revenue fund;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 05-117, approving the resolution of the Gaming Operations Authority Board (GOAB) to amend the policies and procedures to revise the absent/tardy policy;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 05-133, appropriating funds for distance education through Wes Watkins Technology Center and Haskell Indian Nation for Muscogee (Creek) students;

• postponed (18-4-0) NCA 05-153, authorizing a special appropriation to West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church for facility repairs;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; and **K.Johnson**, Okmulgee;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 05-154, authorizing a budget modification in excess of 10% for the Realty Department for land operations;

Speaker **Yahola** turned the chair to Second Speaker **Richard Berryhill**;

Speaker **Yahola** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 05-155, authorizing a special appropriation to the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard for the purchase of a van transportation to tribal ceremonies and funerals;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 05-156, authorizing a budget modification in excess of 10% for the department of Human Development Tribal incentive grants program;

• failed (8-14-0) NCA 05-157, authorizing a special appropriation to assist the funding for Okemah Youth Soccer Association (OYSA) Fall 2005 Season;

voting no were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Harjo**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **S.Johnson**, Muskogee; **K.Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Willits**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

Second Speaker **Berryhill** turned the chair back over to Speaker **Yahola**

• failed (8-14-0) NCA 05-158, authorizing a special appropriation to the Mason Public Schools for assistance in providing lights for the school's softball fields;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **S.Johnson**, Muskogee; **K.Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Willits**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 05-160, authorizing the expenditure of a Bureau of Indian Affairs contract received by the Nation for renovation of the old dental building;

• failed (10-12-0) NCA 05-161, authorizing a special appropriation to a Muscogee (Creek) citizen for assistance due to loss of income and medical problems;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Willits**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved as amended (22-0-0) NCA 05-163, appropriating funds for the Kellyville Indian Community to demolish the existing building and construct a new community bulding;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 05-164, appropriating funds for an appraisal of Real Property in Hughes County, Oklahoma;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 05-165, appropriating funds for the payment on interest on a loan with Valley National Banks;

• approved (15-7-0) NCA 05-167, authorizing a special appropriation to assist the Okemah Warriors with travel expenses to Wichita, Kansas to compete in the Nationals;

voting no were: **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Willits**, Tulsa;

• failed (9-13-0) NCA 05-172, authorizing a special appropriation to assist a nursing student in purchasing a laptop computer as required by her school's program curriculum;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Notaro**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **S. Johnson**, Muskogee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Willits**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner, and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved as amended (22-0-0) NCA 05-176, amending NCA 05-126 to provide air-conditioning units for any Muscogee (Creek) citizen who suffers from or is otherwise prone to chronic illness;

• approved as amended (21-0-1) NCA 05-177, amending NCA 04-118 (establishing guidelines for the school clothing program and appropriating funds and amending NCA 04-126 (establishing a comprehensive clothing assistance program for over-income families);

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• return to committee (19-3-0) NCA 05-178, authorizing a special appropriation to the Mound Building Oversight Committee for the purchase and sale of flags;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner.

August 11, Extraordinary session

Absent were: **Tiger**, Creek; **Harjo**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Willits**, Tulsa;.

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

representative **Quiett**, **Hufft**, **Harjo**, and **Fields** arrived during committee as-a-whole;

representative **K. Johnson** arrived before the rise and report;

• approved (18-3-0) TR 05-124, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the purchase of property located in Tulsa County, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Fields** was excused;

representative **Hufft** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (19-0-0) TR 05-125, authorizing the Principal Chief to submit a bid and to execute a contract for the purchase of land in McIntosh County, Oklahoma;

• approved (17-2-0) NCA 05-184, appropriating funds to be used toward the purchase of Real Property located in Tulsa County, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Golden**, Okfuskee.

August 15, Special session

Absent were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**-excused, Muskogee; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **K. Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Bible**-excused, Tulsa; **Berryhill**-excused, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

Speaker **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

representative **K. Johnson** and **Wind** arrived during committee as-a-whole;

• approved as amended (16-4-0) NCA 05-188, amending title 19, §5-102 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled "Candidate must be registered and take leave from employment with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

voting no were: **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Wind**, Okfuskee; **Williams**, Okmulgee; **Ade**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce.

Correction:
Name: Jeffrey Scot Fife of Beggs
Age: 32
Family: Wife, Thomasine; sons, Aaron and J. Scot
Parents: Bill S. and Mary Fife
Clan: Wotko
Church: Thlewarle
Tribal Town: Tvpvpvtce
Experience: In 13 years service as a Lighthorse Police Officer, my work has focused on the Constitution and Laws of the Muscogee Nation, which I have studied and understand. As Chief Criminal Investigator, my responsibilities in law enforcement also include administrative duties such as annual budget preparation, office management, and staff supervision. My training includes CLEET certification, Criminal Investigators Academy, Basick Law Enforement Intructor Certification, White Collar Creime Invstigation, Child Abuse Investigations, and Creek Language. I also served five years on the Festival Committee (two as Chairman) and as mentor for Lighthorse Police Explorers Program. In December, I will complete my Associates Degree form OSU-Oklahoma City and the College of the Muscogee Nation. I want to continue contributing to the wellbeing and development of the tribe. I ask for your vote.

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for qualified individuals for the following positions:

Van Driver (2 positions):

Muskogee ENP and Twin Hills ENP (Part Time)

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler's permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

CEO - Creek Nation Health System:

Requirements: Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompasses work in the following direct health care activities; Hospital/ Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/ Contract Health services.

In addition candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the field.

Staff Dentist (Part-Time) - Sapulpa:

Requirements: A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

Grant Writer:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with emphasis in Finance, Marketing, Communications, Journalism, or related area of study is preferred. An Associated Degree is required. A minimum of three years of relevant experience is preferred. An equivalent amount of experience may be substituted for educational requirement.

Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Health System Administrator - CNCH:

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Management, or related field of study is required. A Master's Degree (MPH) in a related field is preferred. A minimum of two years of experience in the health care management / administration field is required, preferably in a tribal environment.

LPN - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited practical nursing curriculum is required. One year relevant experience as a member of a nursing team. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Practical Nursing and current CPR certification.

Clinical Nurse Specialist - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited professional program for advanced registered nursing practitioners as Clinical Nurse Specialist. One year relevant experience is required.. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

Statistical Officer/Epidemiologist:

Requirements: A Master's Degree in Public Health Administration (MPH) or related field is preferred. A minimum of two years experience related to statistical analysis.

Pediatric Dental Assistant:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of training from an accredited school as a Dental Assistant and/or Certificates of Training received from the Oklahoma State Board of Dentistry or IHS is preferred but not required. One year of relevant experience as a dental assistant. Certification / Permit or be eligible to assist D. D. S. in administering Nitrous Oxide is required.

Incumbent must complete the requirements necessary to obtain certification to administer Nitrous Oxide within six months upon hiring or closest test date after six months.

Community Diabetes Dietitian - Sapulpa:

Requirements: Bachelors Degree in health education, health communications or related with (5) years of relevant experience working in communities is required. Masters Degree is preferred. With a Masters Degree, relevant community work experience is required.

Incumbent must be a Registered Dietitian LD/RD and certified as a Diabetes Educator. Incumbent must also possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable

Procurement Clerk:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Associates Degree in related field of study is preferred. One year experience in same or related field. Additional related experience may be substituted for education requirement.

Medical Records Supervisor - Eufaula

Requirements: An Associate's Degree in Business Communications or a related field or graduation from a technical or vo-tech program in a related field of study. A minimum of five year related experience is required. Related experience may be substituted for educational requirements and prior experience and knowledge of third party billing.

Business Office Manager

Requirements: A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Business Administration, or related field is preferred. With a Bachelors Degree, two years of related experience is required. Education requirement may be substituted with ten years of related experience.

Reintegration Program Coordinator

Requirements: A Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice, Social Services or related field is preferred. A minimum of three years relevant work experience in parole supervision and counseling. Must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's license and be insurable is required.

Medical Technologist Supervisor - Okemah:

Requirements: A High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Successful completion of 90 semester hours of academic credit necessary to satisfy requirements of the position as well as a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques at an accredited institution is required. Four years of pertinent full-time Laboratory experience. Valid ASCP certification as a MT is required.

Optometry Receptionist - Sapulpa:

Requirements: High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A minimum one year related experience is required.

For more information, visit the online site at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/healthadminstration/ Jobs.html. For contact information, call (918)756-4333 or (800) 782-8291.

NCA 05-106

Classification: #00. Constitution

A Law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Amending the constitution of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation to add a section 2 to article IX

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:

SECTION ONE: AMENDMENT. Subject to the provision of Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection as in the manner provided by law.

SECTION TWO. PURPOSE. The purpose of this law is to authorize a vote of the Muscogee Creek citizens to consider amending Article IX to add a new section 2 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

SECTION THREE. PROPOSED AMENDMENT. The following proposed amendment to the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is as follows:

SECTION 2. (A) A Constitutional Convention shall be convened. The Convention shall decide the date of the next Constitutional Convention.

(B) The Constitutional Convention membership shall consist of eligible voters of the Nation.

(C) A Constitutional Convention Commission is hereby established and shall have the administrative responsibility and authority to conduct the Constitutional Convention. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall consist of one (1) person from each of the three branches of Government and one (1) person from each District selected by the Caucus of National Council Representatives of each respective District. In the event any District Caucus fails to make its appointment to the Commission on or before the first day of March in a convention year the seated members of the Commission shall have the authority to nominate and fill any vacancy.

(D) The Constitutional Commission shall organize and promulgate rules and regulations in February and proceed to carry out the process of a Constitutional Convention that will ensure citizen input and participation from through out the Nation, completing their work on or before next February. The Commission shall conduct public hearings throughout the Nation to accept citizen views on constitutional amendments, revisions, alterations or additions and shall prepare a public report of all proposed amendments, revisions, alterations and additions. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall then work with the Election Board to prepare wording for separate ballots for each amendment, revision, alteration or addition to be submitted to the citizens at the election, completing this work on or before the last day of February

(E) Constitutional Convention amendments, alterations, revisions or new articles proposed by such Convention shall be submitted to the eligible voters of the a Muscogee (Creek) Nation at a special election, called by the Principal Chief within one hundred eighty (180) days, unless there is a General Election within one hundred eighty (180) days, and approved by a majority of the eligible voters voting thereon before the same shall be effective

(F) The National Council shall enact such laws as are necessary to ensure a Constitutional Convention is conducted. The National Council shall appropriate necessary funds to accomplish the Constitutional Convention.

SECTION FOUR. AUTHORIZATION. The Principal Chief is hereby directed to authorize the Election Board to include this Constitutional Amendment question on the ballot of the next General Election immediately following passage of this law.

ENACTED by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 21st day of May 2005.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council has hereto attached his signature.

Thomas Yahola, Speaker
National Council
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
NCA 05-106

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the minutes of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council comprised of twenty-six members with Twenty-two members attending this meeting on the 21st day of May 2005, and that the above is in conformity with the provisions therein adopted by a vote of 19 in favor, 2 against, 0 abstentions, and that the said Law has not been rescinded or amended in any way and the above is the signature of the Speaker of the National Council.

APPROVAL

I, the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, hereby affix my signature this 31 day of May, 2005, to the above Law, NCA 05-106, authorizing it to become a Law under Article VI., Section VI., of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

AD. Ellis, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

NCA 05-105
CLASSIFICATION: #00. CONSTITUTION

A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending the constitution of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation by referendum vote to replace Muscogee (Creek) Nation with Mvskoke Etvlwv and repealing NCA 97-89

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:

SECTION ONE: FINDING. The National Council finds that:

A. Language speakers have requested a referendum vote to replace Muscogee (Creek) Nation with Mvskoke Etvlwv.

B. MCNCA Title 15, §2-101 and TR 00-44 respectively adopted both the official alphabet and language for this Nation.

C. Language speakers identify themselves as Mvskoke, not as Creeks.

D. Etvlwv is the language word for Nation.

E. The word Creek was popularized by non-Indians, due to their inability to pronounce names of Tribal Town Settlements located on or near Creeks and Rivers.

SECTION TWO. PROPOSED AMENDMENT. Subject to the provisions of Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection as in the manner provided by law, the following proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:

Shall the Preamble; Article 1, §§ 1,-3; Article II, §§ 1-5; Article V, §§ 1-4; Article VI, §§1,2,4,-7; Article VII, §§ 1-3; Article VIII, §3; and Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation be amended by substituting the phrase "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation with 'Mvskoke Etvlwv' and substituting "Muscogee" or "Muscogee (Creek)" with "Mvskoke".

SECTION THREE. BALLOT FORM. The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitutional Amendment as set forth in Section Two of this Act shall be in the following form:

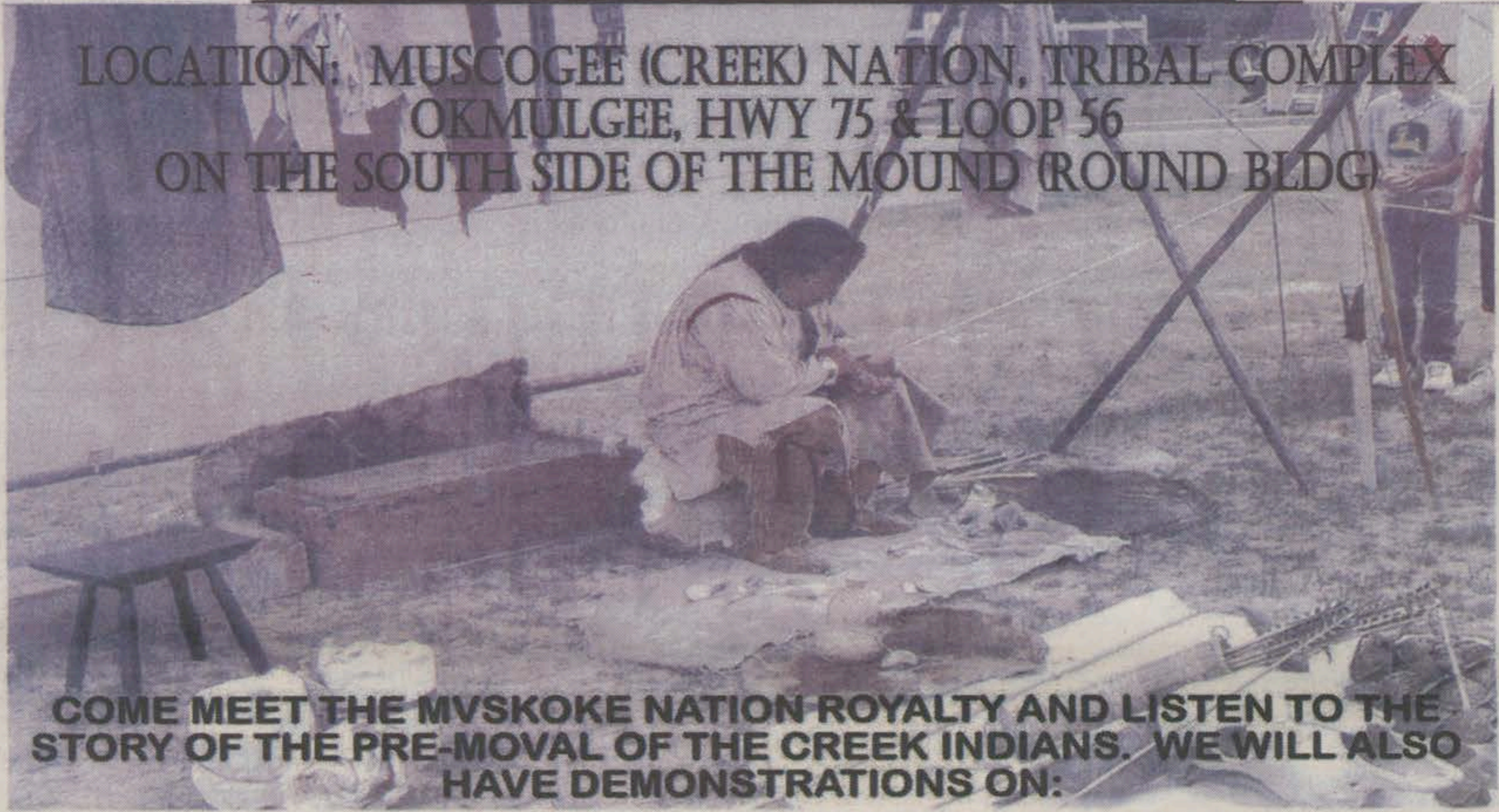
BALLOT TITLE

THE PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

Shall the Preamble; Article 1, §§ 1, -3; Article II, §§ 1-5; Article III, §§ 1-4; Article IV, §§1,2,6, and 9; Article V, §§ 1-4; Article VI, §§ 1,2,4-7; Article VII, §§ 1-3; Article VIII, § 3;

CULTURAL DAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2005
10AM - 1PM



LOCATION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, TRIBAL COMPLEX
OKMULGEE, HWY 75 & LOOP 56
ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE MOUND (ROUND BLDG)

COME MEET THE MVSKOKE NATION ROYALTY AND LISTEN TO THE STORY OF THE PRE-MOVAL OF THE CREEK INDIANS. WE WILL ALSO HAVE DEMONSTRATIONS ON:

MEAT W/SWEET CORN
GRAPE DUMPLINGS
SOUR CORNBREAD
SAK-KP-NEP-KE
CREEK HYMN SINGING
FRIED SWEET POTATOES
APVTAKV (COWBOY BREAD)
CORN PATTIES
BASKET WEAVING
BALL STICK MAKING
STICK BALL GAME
TEAR DRESS (TRADITIONAL)
STOMP DANCE CANS
ARTWORK
STOMP DANCING
SILVER SMITHING
SALT MEAT
FRY BREAD
APUSKE
SAFKE
FRIED PORK
YELLOW SQUASH
CVTV HAKV (BLUE BREAD)
TURTLE SHELLS
FINGER WEAVING
FLUTE MAKING
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) LANGUAGE
BEADWORK
LYE
FOOTBALL
POTTERY
FLUTE PLAYING
TRADITIONAL CLOTHING

FOR ALL AGES - THIS EVENT IS __FREE__!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL Newman Frank, Melody Hicks, Virgil Sanders, or Laurie Rainbolt at 918-732-7680 or 1-800-205-3705.

Sponsored by The Office of Child Care

McIntosh appointed National Missionary to Native Americans by the North American Mission Board

ALPHARETTA, GA — Ledtkey (Lit) McIntosh has recently been appointed National Missionary to Native Americans by the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

McIntosh

Prior to assuming this role, McIntosh pastored Baptist churches for over 30 years. His most recent pastorates were First Baptist Church in Paden, Oklahoma from 2002-2005 and Glorieta Baptist Church in Oklahoma City from 1989 to 2002. During this pastorate, he led the congregation in numerical growth from an average of fewer than 100 in 1989 to over 200, served on the Board of Trustees of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, preached during the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas, Texas, and preached the annual sermon of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Other pastorates included Keeler Baptist Church in Borger, Texas and First Baptist Church in Skellytown, Texas. Prior to these churches, McIntosh was a teacher-coach and a bi-vocational pastor.

He was born in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, to John D. and Velva (Richards) McIntosh. His father was a long-time Baptist pastor, having his last pastorate at Deep Fork Hillabee Indian Baptist Church in Checotah, Oklahoma. Ledtkey pastored this same church during the late 1970's. In addition to his father's being a preacher, his great-grandfather, John McIntosh, was the first missionary to Native tribes in southwestern Oklahoma, for which he was installed in the Oklahoma Baptist Hall of Fame.

Bro. Lit, as he is commonly called, was reared in the Tiger Mountain Community, McIntosh County in Oklahoma. He graduated from high school in Dewar, Oklahoma, and received a football scholarship to a small junior college, Connors State College in Warner, Oklahoma. He graduated from Northeastern Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma with a BS degree and began his teaching/coaching career.

As a part of his testimony, McIntosh says, "I sensed God's call on my life from early childhood, but had no desire at that time to pursue the ministry. My desire was to coach and that is what I wanted to do with my life. Like a lot of young Indian men, I loved sports. I then began to drift downward in my life. Things were going from bad to worse. During those days of trying to find myself or my place in life, I sensed again God's call on my life. After years of trying to run my life, I finally came to realize my need for the Lord Jesus to control things. I surrendered my life to His will and have tried to follow Him ever since."

Oklahoma Indian Leadership Conference

LOCUST GROVE — The 2005 Oklahoma Indian Leadership Conference will be held Sept. 29 through Oct. 1 at Snake Creek Baptist Church.

The theme for this year's conference is "The Crossing of the Jordan Encouragement."

Gil Harjo will be the conference director.

The conference topics include: church ethics; church incorporated; men's ministry; revival preparation; van ministry/drivers; constitution; by laws; and women's ministry and business meetings.

The church is located from Tulsa, take 412 east to Highway 82 south toward Tahlequah, go one mile, turn east and go five miles or from Tahlequah, take Highway 82 north, 24 miles and go east five miles.

Memorial Gospel Singing

BIXBY — Spook Wesley Memorial Gospel Singing will be held at Bemo Baptist Church on Oct. 1.

A hog fry will begin at 5 p.m. and the gospel singing will start at 7 p.m.

The groups include: The Newtons; Sounds of Praise; The Gospel Lights; Cornerstone; Grayson Family and many more. All gospel groups welcome. All listeners welcome.

The Pastor is Brother George Doyle and the emcee will be Curtis Kinney.

The church is located one quarter mile west of 131st and Memorial.

For more information, call (918) 682-4703.

Gospel Singing

SEMINOLE — Kaney Chapel will have a gospel singing on Oct. 8th at 7 p.m.

The emcee will be Curtis Kinney. Singers and listeners are all welcome. Concession will be available. Bring your lawn chairs.

The church is located from Seminole and Highway 99, go five miles south to Bowlegs exit, from the exit go three and a half miles east follow the good road all the way.

Church revival

SAPULPA — Little Cussetah Baptist Church will be having their revival on Oct. 10 through 14 at 7 p.m. nightly. The theme will be "Celebrate Jesus." The speaker will be Edward Bear.

The church is located at 7678 Hilton Road. For more information, call (918) 224-2955.

Green Country Crusade

TULSA — The area wide Green Country Crusade will be held at Bowen Indian Baptist Church on Oct. 17 through 22 at 7 p.m. nightly.

The theme for the crusade will be "Seeking the Multitudes." The evangelist will be Clint Sinclair and the Praise and Worship Team is Wayne and Lucille Harjo.

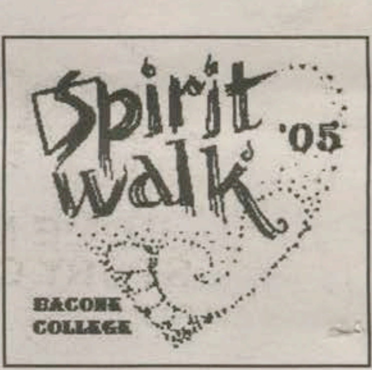
A Children's Church and nursery will be available. There will also be a youth night. Everyone is invited.

The church is located at 1515 E. Independence.

Spirit Walk 2005

MUSKOGEE — Spirit Walk 2005 will take place on Oct. 22 on the campus of Bacone College. The Bacone College Spirit Walk 2005 will follow a 3-4 mile route beginning on campus. The Spirit Walk 2005 is designed to help make a difference in the lives of Native American students at Bacone College.

You may walk as an individual or as part of a team. Form your youth group, local church or friends and family into a team. The following is instructions on how to form a team: organize five or more people into a team - all ages are welcome; choose a team captain, team name and set a fundraising goal; register your team on-line at www.bacone.edu or call (918) 781-7221 and start collecting contributions to support Bacone College students and win prizes.



Revival

SAPULPA — New Joy Indian Baptist Church will be having a revival on Nov. 3 through 6 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.

The speaker will be Norman Daniels. The pastor is Rev. Jimmy Alexander.

The church is located at 1103 S. Main. For more information, call Carol Dunn at (918) 734-3802.

If you would like to have your church events announced, mail them to *Muscogee Nation News*, Attention: Jennifer, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, fax at (918) 758-0824 or e-mail at jtaryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

and Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation be amended by substituting the phrase "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation" with 'Mvskoke Etvlwv' and substituting "Muscogee" or "Muscogee (Creek)" with "Mvskoke".

☐ YES, For the Amendment

☐ NO, Against the Amendment

SECTION FOUR. ELECTION. The National Council hereby requests the Principal Chief to set and election date for the proposed Constitutional amendment within thirty (30) calendar days as required by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, Article IX, § 1(b).

SECTION FIVE. APPROVAL. As provided in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, Article IX, § 1(a)(2), if the above question is ratified by two-thirds of the voters in the election the amendment shall have full force and effect from the date of approval.

SECTION SIX. REPEALER. NCA 97-89 is hereby repealed.

ENACTED by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 21st day of May 2005.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council has hereto attached his signature.

Thomas Yahola
National Council
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the minutes of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council comprised of twenty-six members with Twenty-two members attending this meeting on the 21st day of May 2005, and that the above is in conformity with the provisions therein adopted by a vote of 20 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstentions, and that said Law has not been rescinded or amended in any way and the above is the signature of the Speaker of the National Council.

APPROVAL

I, the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, hereby affix my signature this 31 day of May, 2005, to the above Law, NCA 05-105, authorizing it to become a Law under Article VI, Section VI., of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

AD. Ellis, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

NCA 05-151

CLASSIFICATION: #00. CONSTITUTION

A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONSTITUTION AT ARTICLE VI, SECTION 2(a), BY REFERENDUM VOTE, TO ALLOW STAGGERED TERMS OF OFFICE FOR NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:

SECTION ONE. PROPOSED AMENDMENT. Subject to the provisions of Article IX of he Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection as in the manner provided by law, the following proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Constitution of he Muscogee (Creek) Nation:

Shall Article VI, § 2(a), be amended to read as follows: "Each representative shall be elected by a vote of the district and shall hold office for four (4) years. These terms of office shall be staggered to ensure that one-half of the Council stand for election every two (2) years. Beginning with the first election after this amendment is approved, those persons filing for B and D Council seats shall serve for a periods of two (2) years and those persons filing for A, C and E Council seats shall serve for a period of four (4) years. The B and D seats will stand for election in two years at which time the B and D seats shall commence a four-year term.

SECTION TWO. BALLOT FORM. The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitutional Amendment as set forth in Section Two of this Act shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE

THE PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

Shall Article VI, §2(a), be amended to read as follows: "Each representative shall be elected by a vote of the district and shall hold office for four (4) years. These terms of office shall be staggered to ensure that one-half of the Council stands for election after this amendment is approved, those persons filing for B and D seats shall serve for a period of two (2) years and those persons filing for A. C and E Council seats shall serve for a period of four (4) years. The B and D seats will stand for election in two years at which time the B and D seats shall commence a four-year term."

NCA 05-151

☐ YES, For the Amendment

☐ NO, Against the Amendment

SECTION THREE. ELECTION. The National Council hereby requests the Principal Chief to set a Special Election date for the proposed Constitutional amendment within thirty (30) calendar days as required by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, Article IX, §1.

SECTION FOUR. Approval. As provided for in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, Article IX, §1(a)(2), if the above question is ratified by two-thirds of the voters in the election, then the amendment shall have full force and effect from the date of approval.

ENACTED by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 25th day of June 2005.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council has hereto attached his signature.

Thomas Yahola, Speaker
National Council,
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the minutes of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council comprised of twenty-six members with Twenty-four members attending this meeting on the 25th day of June 2005, and that the above is in conformity with the provisions therein adopted by a vote of 23 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention, and that said Law has not been rescinded or amending in any way and the above is the signature of the Speaker of the National Council.

Letters

continued from page 2

base. Never articulated but always close to the hearts of Native Americans is the sorry record of commerce with the government. The Sioux have a word for how the government plays hardball: "taking the fat," they called it. Without precedence to show that negotiations with the government have improved, these memories die hard.

It's government politics at its worse to enlist the vast nontribal population to vote on something that promises them they have nothing to lose and everything to gain, even though it is probably no so. This isn't the first or last time the government will deal the race card to impassion nontribal citizens to vote on issues that benefit a privileged group at a colossal put-down of others.

Tobacco sales are down and no one is happy with the law. The clowns see what clowns they have been and now want to change the rules.

"The state of Oklahoma put the compact on the table. The tribes agreed to it. We have to live with it and they have to live with it," said Mary Mashunkashey, Osage tax administrator. (Where there's smoke...Tulsa World, July 17, 2005)

What would be the result if Native Americans had made a gaffe in an agreement with the state and asked to them to restructure it?

Yeah, you're right; a snowball in hell.

Jacob Narcomey, Okmulgee

Thanks to citizens

Editor:

I am writing this letter to say thank you to the citizens and members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Creek Association of the Los Angeles area and also to the members throughtout California. The short time that I spent during my visit was very plesent and enjoyable. The hospitality by all of the members could no of been better. I truly enjoyed meeting everyone during the gathering at the park in west Hollywood and at the meeting that followed that evening. The turnout was great and the organizers did a great job.

Again, thank you.

David Nichols, Okmulgee District Representative

Hospice of Green Country seeks Volunteers

TULSA — Hospice of Green Country is seeking volunteers to help patients and their families cope with the challenges of terminal illness. Hospice of Green Country is a nonprofit United Way agency dedicated to providing compassionate, quality end-of-life care to patients and families, regardless of ability to pay.

The organization serves terminally ill children and adults and is licensed by the state of Oklahoma, certified by Medicare and has achieved Joint Commission Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) accreditation.

Free training will be available on Sept. 22, 29, and Oct. 6. This training will begin at 5:45 p.m. and will end at 9:00 p.m. For information about Hospice of Green Country, contact Benelle Reeble, Ph.D. CVA, Volunteer Manager or Jeannie Jones, Volunteer Program Assistant at (918) 747-2273.

Neokapa to host 5th Annual Oklahoma Payroll Conference

TULSA — Northeastern Oklahoma Chapter American Payroll Association (NEOKAPA) is hosting the 5th Annual Oklahoma Payroll Conference Sept. 23 at the Double Tree Hotel located in downtown Tulsa.

The conference, titled "Learnings, Earnings, and Deductions," will provide 5.5 hours of CPP and FPC Re-Certification credit hours to registered attendees. Dan Maddux, Executive Director of America Payroll Association, will be this year's guest speaker. As the Executive Director of the nation's leader in payroll education and training, he has played a key role in developing the training and resources that America's payroll professionals use to pay workers accurately and on time resulting in saving participants' companies from paying costly noncompliance fines. Maddux was honored as the National Speakers Association's "2001 Meeting Partner of the Year," and is frequently quoted in national publications on management and marketing issues and regularly on national television.

For more information, contact Cris Converse, CPP President/Chairperson at (918) 250-4719 or on-line at crisc@camglass.com.

Haskell monthly dinner at Knotty Pine Barbecue

TULSA — Alumni and friends of Haskell are welcomed to attend the monthy dinner on Sept. 24 at 4:00 p.m. at Knotty Pine Barbecue located at 3301 West Fifth, Tulsa, OK. For more information call 756-2318.

Social Services Department relocating

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department will be relocating to the Enterprise Building located at 408 West 6th. Social Services will begin business operations in their new offices beginning Oct. 3.

Pink Party to promote Breast Cancer Awareness Month

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center Women's Clinic will be hosting the Third Annual Pink Party on Wednesday, Oct. 12 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building Auditorium.

The purpose of the Pink Party is to heighten awareness in the community about the detection, prevention, and treatment of breast cancer. Breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer deaths, and is treatable with early detection.

To preregister for the Pink Party, contact Teri Garner, Jennifer Zackery, or Jana Ross at (918) 758-2717.

Association to host their Annual Pow-Wow & Fall Festival

NASHVILLE, TN — The Native American Indian Association of Tennessee, Inc. (NAIA) will host their 24th NAIA Annual Pow-Wow & Fall Festival Oct. 14-16, at Long Hunter State Park located at 2910 Hobson Pike.

Phil Bredesen, Governor of Tennessee, and Bill Purcell, Mayor of Nashville, have proclaimed October as Native American Indian Month. The NAIA Pow-Wow & Fall Festival is the main fundraiser of the year for this unique organization that serves more than 15,000 Native American Indians living throughout Tennessee. The NAIA Pow-Wow is named one of America's top 16 and draws thousands each October.

This unique educational and cultural event is also sponsored by NAIA as part of their Support the Arts in Tennessee program. Friday Oct. 14, from 10a.m.-3p.m. NAIA offers free admission to all school children and educators with special interactive programs planned.

The Native American Indian Association of Tennessee, Inc. (NAIA) was founded in 1082 and is the only nonprofit 501-(c)(3) statewide Native American Indian organization with an all Indian Board of Directors. Their mission is to provide social services and cultural revitalization for the more than 15,000 Native Americans in Tennessee.

USDA asking for input on upcoming Farm Bill

MUSKOGEE — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is asking for assistance in identifying ways to address agricultural issues on the next Farm Bill. The 2002 Farm Bill (officially entitled the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002) authorizes many USDA programs, including farm price and income support programs. New legislation will need to be entacted prior to the bill's experation in 2007.

- USDA intends to develop recommendations for the new farm bill and believes that public input is essential to this process. Written comments may be submitted to USDA on-line at www.usda.gov/farmbill. Select "Comment on the 200 Farm Bill", which is the last item located in the middle section, to send your message. Comments can also be sent by mail to the following address: USDA Farm Bill, Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns, Office of the Executive Secretariat, Room 116-A, Jamie L. Whitten Federal Buliding, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3355.

Reunions

Francis Annual Reunion

EUFAULA — On Sept. 24 the Francis Annual Reunion will be held at Artussee Indian Baptist Church located 41/2 miles West of Eufaula on Hwy 9. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish. For more information, call (918) 689-9743 or (918) 232-2723.

Winds Family Reunion

WELEETKA — A family reunion for the descendants of Daniel and Fannie Wind, and Hotvletv Wind will be held on Saturday Oct. 1, at 10:30 a.m. At the Weleetka Indian Community Center. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish. Fun, activities, and games are also scheduled at the reunion.

Haskell Reunion

LAWRENCE, KS. — Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites all Haskell alumni and friends to attend their Annual Reunion held on Oct. 28-30.

The events include: Friday evening, reception and Halloween costume contest; Saturday night, dinner/dance; and Sunday morning gospel singing.

For more information contact: Leon Yahola at: P.O. Box 364, Muskogee, OK 74402 or call (918) 616-3757.

Muscogee teens portray National Council meeting during youth empowerment camp

STROUD — Muscogee (Creek) teens from Creek communities participated in the first National Teen Council Meeting during the Youth Empowerment Camp held on Aug. 3 at Stroud. The camp was hosted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research and Development Department.

During a mock National Council meeting the teens appropriated $131,000 to: purchase prom dresses and tuxedos for graduating seniors; put computers in rural community centers; and enhance a better understanding of Creek culture with special emphasis on stomp dance leading and shell shaking. There were three other bills that died from lack of votes, including one to change the tribe's name from Muscogee (Creek) Nation to Mvskoke Etvlwv, which means "Muscogee Nation" in the tribal language. None of the bills actually will be funded or enacted.

Teens display interest in meeting

The teen council was a learning experience to get the Creek youth interested in tribal governance, legislations and to develop future tribal leaders. According to the Community Research and Development Department, this is only a minor step forward in preparation for Creek citizen's future. The department plans to continue to train youth in tribal government and tribal legislation.

The camp was designed to empower the Muscogee (Creek) youths to overcome obstacles faced by today's teens while striving for excellence in mind, body, and spirit. A key part of the success of the mock council meeting was the collaboration of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Departments such as Social Service, Tobacco Prevention, Cultural Preservation and Food Distribution.

Route

continued from page 1

stopping at the Community Center. From there, the bus travles to South Tulsa stopping at the 51st and Union intersection. From South Tulsa, the bus travels to Glenpool Community Center before reaching the Tribal Complex just before 8 a.m.

The return for each of these routes begins at the Complex at 5:00 p.m. The Holdenville route runs Monday, Wednesday and Friday with Sapulpa running Tuesday and Thursday.

Beginning the week of Oct. 2, plans are to begin the Eufaula/Hanna and the Muskogee/Coweta routes. The Eufaula route will include stops at Dustin and Dewar and the Muskogee route will include stops at Porter, Coweta and Bixby.

According to Ben Chaney, Transportation Manager, this type of transit system has not been attempted by any of the other tribes in Oklahoma, especially over such a large area.

The system is funded through the Indian Reservation Roads Program and includes a new Transit building, plus four buses and two vans. The buses and one van are handicap accessible with electric lifts.

For more information, contact Christine Rogers, Transit Supervisor, at (918) 759-0645 or Ben Chaney, Transportation Manager, at (918) 752-3253.

Berryhill

continued from page 3

"Listen. It's so quiet now you can almost hear the moccasins padding across the floor. It's empty now. Nothing lives up there but the memories."

Lambert told us of the prophetic words of Alexander Lawrence Posey and the strange execution of ill-fated Timmie Jack.

Posey had been the poet laureate of the Creek Nation. His word his feelings. And he strongly believed in premonitions. He once wrote:

"Why do trees along the river lean so far out o'er the tide? Very wise men tell me why, but I am not satisfied. And hold my fancy still that trees lean out to save the drowning form the clutches of the cold, remorseless wave."

Alexander Posey died on May 27,1908. He drowned in the North Canadian River after clutching frantically for more than two hours to some small trees leaning out from the river's shoreline.

We followed E.C. Lambert out into the glare of an Oklahoma afternoon, out to the granite monument that stand ominously beneath the gnarled limbs of an elm, just seventeen steps from the eastern corner of the Council House.

it read: "The last execution under Creek Law took place on this spot May 1, 1896 Timmie Jack, Euchee Creek, was executed (shot) by his best friend, Pleasant L. (Duke) Berryhill, Cpt. of the Lighthorse Company."

Poor old Timmie Jack. He was a likeable cuss. But he killed a friend in a drunken brawl and an Indian jury said he must die. Timmie Jack accepted his fate calmly. He was a Creek, a tribe that had no jails. It needed none. After the trial and sentencing, the judge sent Timmie Jack home with his wife to gather his crops and close up his business affairs. But, he told him, "Be back on May 1."

Timmie Jack came back. He could have been as free as the deer and wild turkey that roamed among the ridges overlooking the Deep Fork River. But, on May 1, long before daylight, Timmie Jack was back on the streets of Okmulgee.

All day long he had a party. After all, it was taking Timmie Jack that much time to say goodbye to all his friends who had gathered from throughout the far reaches of the Creek Nation. The condemned took time to wander on down to Silas Smith's shop and inspect his coffin, even got in and lay down before telling Silas he thought it would work just fine.

As dusk crept over Okmulgee, Tiimmie Jack announced that the time had come. He seated himself in a window box and calmly leaned back against the elm, pinning a circle of whit paper over his heart. He asked for no blindfold and chose his friend, Captain Berryhill, to fire the final shot.

It took only one.

MVTO

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES

AFTER THE ICE AGE

By: Patrick E. Moore

Seventeen thousand years ago the Earth's climate began to warm and a continental ice sheet that had covered most of now North America began to melt and recede north. Plant life followed the ice. World wide ocean and sea levels rose inundating shorelines previously used for human and animal movement between the various continents. The great mammals, mammoths, caribou and mastodons along with predators moved into this new fauna rich environment with the "Big Game Hunters" not far behind. These "Big Game Hunters" were the Paleo-Indians who came from what is now Central America and in some cases southwestern North America. When they reached the most northeastern regions of the North American continent these Paleo-Indians found the climate and natural resources very hospitable and these "First Americans" began to develop towns and social organizations that evolved with the passing of time into very intricate and complicated democratic governments.

Then ten thousand years ago the continued warming trend resulted in a change to the forest and grasslands fauna causing the extinction of most of the great mammals. Several millennia passed and the great mammals were replaced by the smaller and more adaptable moose, elk, bison and deer, animals that thrived on the "Great Plains" and in the extensive hardwood and pine tree forests of eastern North America. The hunter now had a much more varied and reliable meat source, which was also easier to subdue.

The "Big Game Hunters" now had available from the forest unimaginable wild plant food sources, the streams and rivers teemed with fishes year round and there were seasonal fish migrations from salt water to fresh water estuaries for breeding.

Eight thousand years ago the northeastern "Big Game Hunters" had developed very sophisticated methods for processing these new food sources. They invented a millstone for grinding nuts and grains and barbed projectile points for more specialized hunting and fishing. These inventive people also began to manufacture tools for use in their agricultural pursuits. Their social organizations became much more complex resulting in greater stability and community cooperation.

Six thousand years ago the Late Archaic cultures of northeastern North America had developed the cultural and economic systems that the European explorers would encounter ca. 980-981 when Hrolfr Thorbjarnarson and Snaebjorn Holmsteinsson spent the winter on the cost of Greenland and later in ca.1492 when the Carribean islands were invaded.

Four thousand five hundred years ago on the site where present day Boston, Massachusetts is situated, local "Big Game Hunters" had constructed a fish weir consisting of sixty-five thousand individual stakes supporting woven branches used to catch migrating fish. This ancient weir covered two acres. A fish weir of this size required the collective effort of hundreds of hunters. This intricate construction exhibited an extremely high degree of organization, creative leadership and complicated engineering.

Walking distance from this huge fishing weir existed a village consisting of six circular dwellings and a ceremonial lodge and meeting place. This ceremonial lodge had an inside diameter of sixty-five feet and each of the dwellings would have been able to comfortably shelter a related family unit of thirty to fifty individuals. This village also had a large burial ground, illustrating the spiritual aspects of this very advanced culture. Corpses were buried in a flexed fetal position and decorated with red ocher, suggesting these early "First Americans" believed death was a rebirth. Burials of this nature are found throughout the northeastern and southeastern woodland cultures.

The "Big Game Hunter's" development and refinement of agricultural practices coupled with food gathering and preserving techniques resulted in an explosion in "First American" population from what is now Canada throughout northeastern and southeastern North America into the Florida peninsula. Anthropologists, Demographers and Historians now agree that prior to European contact with First Americans in North America, at least ten million indigenous people lived north of present day Mexico.

The entire western hemisphere basically been isolated from contact with peoples from the other continents for a period of more than fifty thousand years. During and between various "Ice Ages" there were migrations along northern seashores, probably both ways from ancient Europe and Asia. Cold temperatures in the north prevented migration of diseases into the Northern hemisphere including the Greenland expeditions by Norseman ca. 980-981, but when southern Europeans arrived in the warmer Carribean late in the 1400's

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade & Commerce Authority prepares farm for future agri-business opportunities

HANNA—As the hot Summer relents to the milder climate of Fall, you can already feel the change in the air, see the leaves turning colors, and watch the grain harvests suggesting Autumn is coming soon. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade & Commerce Authority is also making plans to meet the needs of the Farm Authority for the upcoming fiscal year and increase the agri-business opportunities at its farm operations.

Under the guidance of the Trade & Commerce Authority, the Farm Authority is developing a business plan and annual budget for the farm as part of its long-term business strategies to maximize facilities production and increase overall profitability. Since 2004, the Farm Authority has been developing the property to harvest alfalfa, Bermuda grass, Bluestem hay, watermelons, cantaloupe, squash, tomatoes, sweet corn, pecans, pumpkins, and sweet potatoes for sale while also providing feed for their cattle herd.

Acting farm manager, Ronnie Jackson, is new on the job and has been directed by the Trade & Commerce Authority to push a stronger agri-business agenda for the farm by helping grow the potential business segments, increasing efficiency, and upgrading the facilities. Jackson has already begun revitalizing the farm property by: reviewing and analyzing the physical facilities; repairing and replacing property fences to raise beef cattle; preparing and harvesting grain products (hay and grass) for sale; and harvesting produce for sale.

Presented on multiple land tracts and consisting of approximately 4,000 acres of fertile ground, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Farm lies just between the Indian Nation Turnpike to the west and the Canadian River to the east. Jackson believes the farm can become profitable in the near future utilizing solid business methods and through implementing the latest farm management techniques or practices. "To help get better prices, we will begin to shop around for what we need," said Jackson. He thinks that will help set the stage for future growth and increase profits on the farm. "We will also take the time to save and raise our own mother cows to increase the size and value of the cattle herd," he said.

According to Jackson, the farm is in need of basic maintenance and repairs to help increase its value, productivity, and help increase the number of cattle in their herd. "We need to complete repairs on some existing fencing and build new fences for what cattle we have now," said Jackson. "We'll also need to put in ponds in each of the pastures to help secure water for the herd to grow in the upcoming years," he added.

Another future prospect for the farm's agri-business plan includes developing the potential to attract new "agri-tourism" industry to the farm. The "agri-tourism" industry seeks to bring local people and those in the Midwest region or tourists from across the nation to see the buffalo herd on the tribe's farm. The Trade and Commerce Authority has discussed this as a long-term opportunity and project planning has already begun.

As well as managing the workforce, Jackson also oversees planning farm projects and developing the resources of the farm. He also knows that putting in a lot of physical labor and personal hours is part of his job, too. "I help load melons, rake hay, check and feed the cattle," he said.

The Trade and Commerce Authority operates the farm as part of a long-term strategic plan to help provide business and economic benefits to the Nation along with its citizens. "The benefits of the farm are many but to me the most important is employing Creek people," Jackson said. "We have hired many dependable, honest, and reliable Native Americans to work on the farm," he continued.

Additionally, the Farm Authority works with local, state, and federal agricultural officials to help provide future long- and short-term business opportunities to the farm. Working with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Tribal Resource Conservationist, Lester Ligons, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is planning to bring strong business, financial, and human resource benefits to the tribe through the farm operation.

Born and raised in Checotah, Jackson graduated from Northeastern State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Education. He says he has raised his own cattle and is now working hard to help create a profitable outlook for the farm. "If everybody pulls together, the future looks good for the farm and I hope it makes everybody as happy as it makes me," Jackson said. "Everyone is welcome to come down and see us," he offered in closing.

MNBE receives Award

OKMULGEE —The Oklahoma Statewide Native American Business Development Center 2005 Oklahoma Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week Awards Dinner was held on August 18 at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa. The event honors Native Americans and minorities who have beaten significant odds to become successful entrepreneurs. This year's MED Week theme was "The Art of the Deal: Making It Happen."

Pictured above, from left to right, are: Second Chief Berryhill, Michael Nalley, Chief Ellis, and National Council Representaive George Tiger.

One of the award winners this year was Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise (MNBE). MNBE was selected to receive the very first Oklahoma Minority Business Development 8(a) Association Business of the Year Award for 2005. "On behalf of MNBE we are extremely proud to receive this award," said Michael Nalley, Director. "It validates the hard work of MNBE employees, Management and Board of Directors. MNBE is also very grateful for the support of Chief A.D. Ellis and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, who also serves as the Chairman of the Board for MNBE. MNBE also wants to recognize the support of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council. Several key pieces of legislation have been passed by the National Council for MNBE that has provided the necessary resources and the legal infrastructure to allow MNBE to operate as a business and to grow. Our success would not be possible without the vision and support of our Executive and Legislative branches."

The Oklahoma Statewide Native American Business Development Center (ONABDC) is funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA).

ONABDC provides business assistance free of charge to Native American and other minority owned companies for the entire state of Oklahoma.

Contract Health Services Program

OKMULGEE — The Contract Health Service (CHS) is a federally funded program to assist eligible patients financially with specialized care that is not directly available from Creek Nation Clinics or Creek Nation Community Hospital. Assistance depends on eligibility, residence, medical priorities, alternate resources, and availability of funding.

The Creek Nation CHS program also contracts with Specialty Care Physicians, hospital, diagnostic groups and other health care providers to treat our patients at prearranged fees.

The Contract Health Service Program is funded yearly with federal funds by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Not all referrals for specialty care can be paid for by Creek Nation Contract Health Services. Because the funding CHS receive cannot accommodate every need of every patient, medical priorities have been established for determining which referrals can be authorized for payment.

Eligibility for Creek Nation Contract Health Services must be established through Contract Health Service (CHS). Eligibility requirements are:

1. Must be eligible for direct patient care services;
2. Non-Indians may be eligible in these situations:
    a. A non-Indian woman who is pregnant with an eligible Indian's child through pregnancy and post partum;
    b. A non-Indian member of an eligible Indian's household who resides within the CN service area is eligible for CHS if the Medical Officer in charge determines that services are necessary to control a public health hazard or an acute infectious disease.
    c. A non-Indian under 19 years old who is an adopted child, stepchild, foster-child, legal ward or orphan of an eligible Indian;
3. Patient must reside within the Creek Nation CHS service area. (Please see map identifying the service boundary). The CHS boundary is established by the Indian Health Service and does not include the entire Creek Nation jurisdictional area;
4. Out-of-state residents are not eligible for CHS funds;
5. You must use all other resources to pay for your medical care, such as Medicare, Medicaid, VA, Worker's Comp, Title 19, Sooner Care, automobile insurance, and / or group health insurance; and
6. CHS is a payor of last resort. This is a federal regulation we have to adhere to use all other resources available.

The priority system helps patients have equal opportunity for specialty services and to make sure the funds are used to give the best possible benefits.

1. Life Threatening Obstetrical Complication/ Emergencies- Medical care for obstetrical patients presenting with obstetrical condition which appear to pose serious threat to life of patient or unborn child (presumptive gestational age sufficient to be viable).
2. Life Threatening Emergencies- Medical care for conditions which are felt to be an imminent threat to life, for which treatment at Creek Nation Community Hospital or an IHS facility is not appropriate or available.
3. Organ/ Limb Threatening Emergencies-Medical care for patients presenting with conditions thought to pose an imminent threat to an organ or limb, where treatment at Creek Nation Community Hospital or an IHS facility is not appropriate or available.
4. Treatment of Curable Cancers in Childhood-Medical care for curable cancers in adult patient. (age as defined by law).
5. Treatment of Curable Cancers in Adults-Medical care for curable cancers in adult patient (age as defined by law).
6. Treatment of Acute Pediatric Fractures or Congenital Deformities-Medical care of acute pediatric fractures which, if not treated, would result in significant loss of function. Treatment of congenital deformities which, if not treated, would result in significant loss of function.
7. Acute Orthopedic Injuries- Medical care for orthopedic injuries in adults (age as defined by law), where delay of such treatment would result in significant loss of function.
8. Urgent Consultative/ Diagnosis Studies- Medical care ordered by a health care provider that is necessary for definitive diagnosis/ treatment of a condition, when it is anticipated that delay of such would not result in loss of life/ limb/ organ, but delay might potentially lead to complications later in life.
9. Class 1 Palliative Cancer Treatment- Treatment for cancer that could prolong life, but is not curative. Extension of life expectancy should be anticipated to be two years or longer.
10. Development Delays- Provider services necessary of the definitive diagnosis of physical or mental conditions in pediatric patients which could impede or prevent normal development; when clinical signs are present to indicate possible presence of such conditions.
11. IHS- Services available at an IHS facility.
12. Other consults and Diagnostic Studies- Consult/diagnostic studies which are necessary for the definitive diagnosis of a condition.
13. Other Orthopedic Problem- Medical care of orthopedic conditions that are not thought to result in significant loss of function; cosmetic deformity may be present.
14. 72 hour/ 30 days Emergency Call-in- Care for which referral is not done- Patient call-in to report emergency medical issues.
15. Rehabilitative Services (Inpatient)-All services defined as rehabilitative; exclusive of those provided by Creek Nation Community Hospital or other IHS facility.
16. Rehabilitative Services (Outpatient)- See # 15 above.
17. Transplant- Organ transplant authorized by qualified providers. Subject to available funding.

72 hours/ 30 days Emergency Call-in Request

As of April 1, 2004, Call-In Request were given a lower priority and will be denied, and can be appealed. However, special appropriation have been funded to assist only Creek Citizen with the emergency request, but still have to meet the following requirements. Call-ins are reported to CHS Central Office, Okmulgee at (918) 758-2710. When a patient has an emergency and is unable to go to the nearest Creek Nation hospital/ clinic or an IHS facility, patient or their representative must do the following:

1. Call Contract Health Services office within 72 hours after the beginning of treatment or admission at a private health care facility.
2. Section 406 of the 72 hour notification is extended to 30 days for elderly Indians 65 years of age or older and disabled Indians who have a limiting physical condition that prevents them from calling.
3. Patient will receive a letter requesting the following documentation to the CHS Central Office within the established timeframes prior to determining the medical priorities: Medical Discharge summary, history and physical report; Copy of emergency room record (ER visit only); Copy of Ambulance or Lifeflight report; Motor Vehicle Accident report; Evidence of use or denial of other resource; Evidence of use or denial of other resource; Eligibility must be established by submitting a copy of Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) from a Federally recognized Indian Tribal Agency or official documentation from your tribe.

Denial Process/ 72 hour Call-In request includes a denial letter that will be sent to notify the patient and allows 30 days to appeal. The same appeal process for referrals applies for the 72 hour Call-In request.

When services are not available at Creek Nation Clinics and hospitals or at an IHS facility where the patient regularly receives care, a physician will initiate a referral to a contract specialty provider. Referral steps are:

1. Nurse/ Provider will direct you to the CHS Coordinator's office and your chart and referral will taken to CHS office.
2. CHS Coordinators will counsel with you regarding eligibility, alternate resources such Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, VA, Workman's Comp and Sooner Care.
3. If you have no other resource, a screening will be done to see if you meet the criteria to apply for Medical Assistance program through Department of Human Services (DHS).
4. In emergency referrals, a letter will be sent to you to make this Medical Assistance application through the DHS program.
5. Patient will need another referral from his/ her doctor for additional procedures, test, follow-up exams and/ or hospitalization.
6. If patient schedules or reschedules an appointment without proper CHS authorization, the patient will be responsible for payment.
7. Get to know your CHS Coordinators at the clinic you normally use to help with any schedules and questions regarding Contract Health Services.

The CHS Coordinator at each clinic prepares all referrals to submit weekly for the CHS Review Committee. The review committee meets weekly and reviews an average of 70 requisitions; Referrals from all clinics are reviewed and categorized in accordance with approved CHS medical priorities; Individual referrals are prioritized with a medical priority and are then ranked within the priority.

Funds approval is based on weekly allocation and applied to the referrals in the order they have been prioritized and ranked.

Deferred referrals are defined as service requested and meets medical priority, but no funds are available to pay for them. Deferred referrals will be resubmitted for review up to three consecutive weeks for further consideration for payment of services and prioritized and ranked with new referrals presented at those meetings. In the event that funds are still not available after the additional review(s), or if the condition of your illness gets worsened, get back with your doctor for a follow-up appointment.

Denial of payment for referrals could be for different reasons:

1. Service for which you requested is not within medical priority and funding range.
2. No prior approval for non-emergency services.
3. Eligibility not established by providing proof of Indian Blood (CDIB).
4. Failure to use alternate resources such as Medicare, Medicaid, VA, Motor Vehicle Insurance, Workman's Comp, other group health insurance, and failure to apply for Medical Assistance Program (DHS) or not cooperating to provide necessary documentation.
5. Persons who reside outside the state are not eligible for CHS.

CHS Central Office Staff will notify each patient in writing of the action to deny his/her referral. Copies of the denial letter are mailed to the patient's MCN provider who initiated the referral and to an outside provider if they had provided the services.

A patient can appeal denied services, the Appeals committee meets monthly to review all written appeals which have been filed. Patient and or provider have 30 days from the date the denial letter is received to appeal for reconsideration. Appeal should be made in writing and mailed to: Attn: Chief Medical Officer, Contract Health Service Office, 206 South Grand, Suite 202, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

If decision is upheld, the next level of appeal can be made in writing within 30 days to: Attn: Chief Executive Officer, Contract Health Service Office, 206 South Grand, Suite 202, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

The CEO's decision on appeals shall constitute final administrative action.

For more information contact CHS at (918) 758-2710.

Tribe dedicates Elderly Housing Unit and Community Center with an Open House

OKMULGEE — On Aug. 24, the Muscogee Creek Nation dedicated its new Elderly Housing Unit and Community Center with an Open House Celebration. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill opened the event with a song and opening prayer.

Chief of Staff, Mike Flud, accepts a card and cake from Elderly Housing resident Betty Freeman.

Manager Ivanlene Tottress welcomed everyone and introduced speakers and guests. The first speaker on the agenda was Del Nutter, acting CEO for Division of Health Administration. He informed the audience about funds received for the elderly nutrition and the success of today's elderly nutrition program.

In 1989, the Tribes's first nutrition center started with only 18,000 meals served annually. Currently, the program serves over 180,000 meals annually within ten centers. Nutter has hopes of adding an additional three centers to accomodate the growth within the Creek Nation boundaries to serve the needs of our elders. Presently they have added another program to their partnership, which is the elderly housing that houses the nutrition centers.

Thomas Yahola, National Council Speaker, gave appreciation and praise for all those who have made the community centers a reality. Robert "Bill" Jones Okmulgee District expressed his appreciation on being invited and commended Linda Lowe for a job well done. Jones introduced all National Council representatives who were in attendance, which included: Sue Johnson, Thomas Yahola, Paula Willits, Barbara Gillespie, Sandra Parish, Bill Chalakee, and Rita Williams.

Steve Wilson, Elderly Nutrition Program Manager, spoke to the audience about the start of the Elderly Program and then read a long list of elders who advocated for a nutrition program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and participated in the early program. Wilson mentioned the late Chief Claude Cox as the major leader who set in motion the action that created a federally funded nutrition program. He then told a story of how the program developed because of the unselfishness and compassion of citizens.

Elderly Housing Residents expressed their gratitude for the modern living facilities. Emily King shared her joy of having a beautiful place to live in her elderly years. Naomi Lewis thanked God and Creek Nation for helping her and others enjoy beautiful housing. She especially praised the fact that she now has security around the clock. Rebecca Autaubo thanked all who made Elderly Housing available. She was proud to be the first resident selected. She stated that she felt safe because of the Lighthorse Police patrol around the clock surveillance.

Donna Martin, Community Services Research Development Manger, interpreted for Resident Betty Freeman who is totally deaf. Freeman expressed her gratitude with a oversized card and cake presented to Chief Ellis to show her appreciation. Mike Flud, Chief of Staff, was present to accept the card and cake on behalf of Chief Ellis.

Gratitiude and thanks was given to Jackson Barnett, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Citizen Services Manager, for his help to all elderly residents of the complex and others throughout the nation. Following the ceremony, a meal was provided by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Nutrition Program.

National Council approves tribal resolution

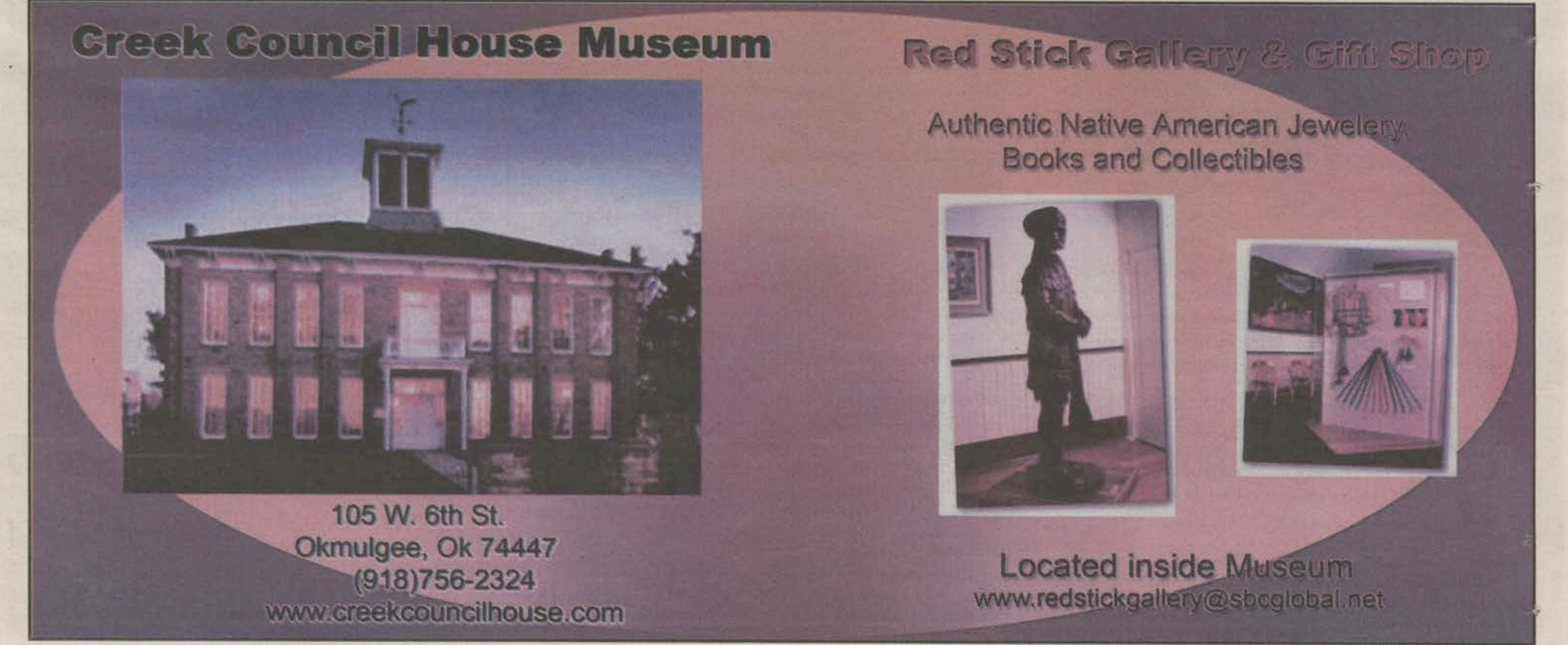
OKMULGEE — On July 25, the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approved Tribal Resolution 05-087, The Admission, Eligibility and Occupancy Policy of the Housing Division of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Two changes we want to bring to your attention are:

Mission - The Mission of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is to provide decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing to low income Native Americans living within or wish to live within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Minimum Income - Applicant's annual income must be a minimum of $5,000 which, after deductions, should be sufficient to demonstrate the ability to satisfy obligations such as, utilities, maintenance and minimum payment of $100 monthly. The elderly and disabled minimum payment shall be $50 per month.

If you were determined ineligible or dropped because of the above reasons, your are encouraged to reapply for housing services with the Admissions Department.



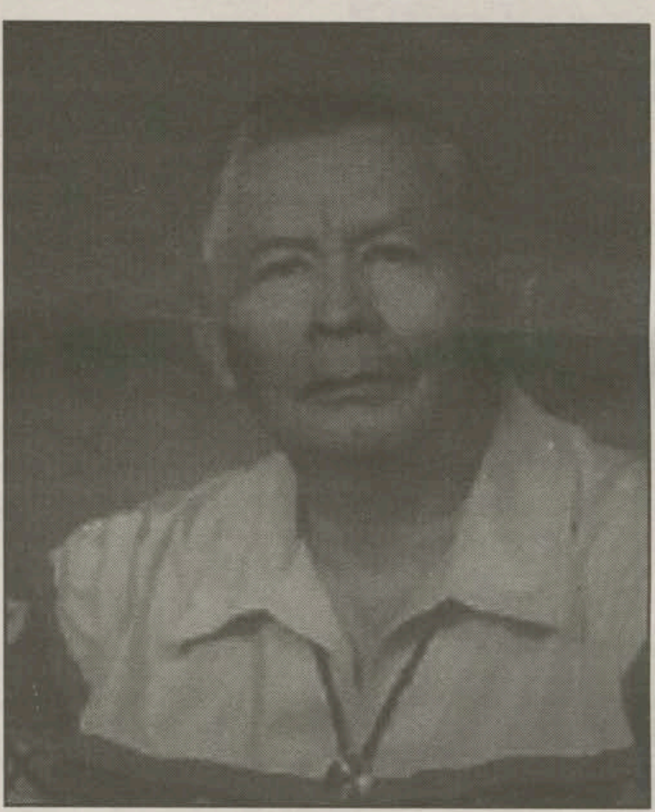
Creek Council House Museum
Red Stick Gallery & Gift Shop
Authentic Native American Jewelery, Books and Collectibles
105 W. 6th St.
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
(918)756-2324
www.creekcouncilhouse.com
Located inside Museum
www.redstickgallery@sbcglobal.net

Spotlight

Creek Medicine Man being honored by State

by Gerald Wofford

It is always a special event when a Native American is honored by his home state. After all, what other group of people should be given more recognition than the original Americans. Dr. Mary Jane Warde, Indian historian at the Oklahoma Historical Society, as well as Judith Michener and William D. Welge, who is the director of the society are in the process of creating a David B. Lewis, Jr. Collection.


David B. Lewis

Lewis is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and has served as a National Council member, but it is Lewis's role as a Muscogee (Creek) medicine man that has garnered the attention the 72 year old tribal healer is receiving.

The collection will be housed in the Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society in Oklahoma City. The collection will also include interview copies, DVD copies , photographs, as well as a copy of *Creek Indian Medicine Ways.* All information will be available to researchers as well as those interested in just finding out about more Muscogee (Creek) history.

The following is an excerpt from Dr. Warde, Michener, and Welge conducted from interviews with Lewis for the Society's reason for creating such an exhibit:

Muscogee elder David B. Lewis, Jr. was born November 2, 1933. He resides at the Yardeka Community, south of Henryetta with his wife of 48 years, Lillie. He is the son of David B. Lewis, Sr., and Sally Jacobs. His grandmother was jeanetta Jacobs. His clan is Bird and his ceremonial ground is Hickory Ground. He is affiliated with West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church. A fluent speaker in the Muscogee language, David is a cultural icon within the tribe.

He is a practicing medicine man who was chosen at birth to carry on the tradition of Creek Indian medicine. His great grandfather, Jackson Lewis, is chronicled in historical written accounts of Muscogee medicine and culture and David has inherited his great grandfather's knowledge. David recalls he was only 9 years old when he first doctored another person. Today, at age 72, he continues to practice the traditional ways of healing for all those that seek out his services. He was recently bestowed an honor by Chief A.D. Ellis and Judge Patrick Moore of the Muscogee Nation. They issued a proclamation that recognized him as a practicing medicine man of the Creek Nation, the first proclamation of its kind ever issued to an individual.

David, a full blood Muscogee citizen, has thrived both in traditional and contemporary society. He earned an Associates Degree and Bachelors Degree in Social Work. He is a Marine Corp. Veteran, (Korean Conflict) and was honorably discharged.

He was elected to five consecutive terms as a National Council Representative for the Okmulgee District, running one year unopposed. In his first year as an elected official, he sponsored, cosponsored and/or wrote 47 legislative bills. He was instrumental in developing many benefit programs for the Muscogee Nation. Specifically, he initiated the tribal motor vehicle tag program and the Post-Graduate Education Program. He was of three members of the volunteer economic development committee that spearhead truck plaza ventures in Okmulgee and Muskogee.

David is also a published author. He recently coauthored a book entitled "Creek Indian Medicine Way: The Enduring Power of Mvskoke Religion." This book was his attempt to share with the Muscogee people and others, the origin of Muscogee medicine ways. He fully describes his initiation ceremony into the medicine cultural and recounts stories of his practice.

Not many people know of his personal philanthropy. When his Father passed away in 1985, he continued the tradition his Father started many years earlier-that of giving to those less fortunate. David has donated much time, money, services, and goods to many people. One personal favorite of his is the collection of toys. During the year, he collects toys, solicits donations from businesses for toys and then at Christmas time, donates the items to needy families and churches. He said this was the tradition his Father started and he continues it on today. He never publicly spoke of this practice, because he did not want people to think it was only a campaign tactic, (since he was an elected official for such a long period of time.)

For this nomination, it is important that people know the charitable aspect of his life. David Lewis epitomizes the concept of Living Legend of the Muscogee Nation. He has contributed to his tribe through cultural and contemporary means. As a practicing medicine man, he continues to help his fellow man through centuries old knowledge we will never be able to imagine. He has been practicing his traditional ways his entire lifetime.

Although David suffered a stroke, which has limited his mobility, he continues to practice his medicine ways and keeps abreast of political and social developments within the Muscogee Nation. He continues to seek out those that need assistance and responds to the requests of people who request traditional healing.

Tiger Mountain Ranch Resort
Where the Past Inspires the Future

Festival of the Common Ground

Starring

Michael Martin Murphey

Featuring
Cowboy and Native American
Poets, Musicians and Artists from across the United States

Western Music ~ Cowboy Poetry ~ Muscogee Creek Stomp Dance
Trick Ropers ~ Horse Safety ~ Western Arts, Gear and Vendors

Live Outdoor Sunset Concert Starring
Michael Martin Murphey

Live Western Entertainment All Day Featuring
Kenney Fields ~ Robert Beene ~ Debra Coppinger Hill ~ Jeff Streeby
Fred Hargrove ~ Catherine Lilbit Devine ~ G. Casey Allen ~ Tim Graham ~ Tye Chisholm
Gina DeLaune ~ Wallace Moore ~ Duncan & Devin Davenport ~ John Schaffner & Others.

Family Style Entertainment
Sponsored in Part by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Performances by Redland Singers & the Native Choir

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS & BLANKETS FOR THIS SUNSET CONCERT

A Percentage of the Profits Benefits Tiger Mountain Volunteer Fire Dept.

Schedule of Events

Friday October 14
- Western Education Day – Open To Area Public Schools
- Over Night Trail Ride With Michael Martin Murphey (Chuck Wagon Dinner, Campfire songs. Limited to 50 riders))
- Muscogee Creek Nation Speakers, Princesses & Stomp Dance.
  Tickets at the gate. Adults $4, Youth (11-18) $2, Ten & Under Free.
- Performances by the Redland Singers & the Native Choir

Saturday October 15
- All day Western Festival featuring Cowboy & Native American Poetry, Music, Artists, Horse Safety Demonstrations, Children's Area and Food Vendors
- Early Evening Concert Starring Michael Martin Murphey, Featuring a Pre-show Cowboy & Native American Poets and Musicians from across the United States.

Tickets
- Tickets Available Online at www.festivalofthecommonground.com, Paul's Western Wear in Henryetta OK and from Festival representatives.
- Adults: $20 ~ Youth (11-18) $10 ~ Kids 10 & Under Free ~ Military personnel & families $5 off with ID.

For more information on:
- **Becoming a Sponsor, Tickets & Trail Ride:** Sharon Glidden, PO Box 787, Henryetta, OK 74437, 918-652-1424
- **Entertainment, Vendors & Tickets:** Debra Coppinger Hill: 918-789-5288 or 918-261-3809
  or Robert Beene: 405-923-0390 or Dave King: 918-261-3809
- **Program Advertising:** Johnna Wilcoxson, 918-346-3438
- **Email the above persons at:** festivalofthecommonground@yahoo.com

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For a more information, a full schedule and directions to Tiger Mountain Ranch go to:
www.festivalofthecommonground.com

Tiger Mountain Ranch: Seven miles East of Henryetta on Hwy 40. Tiger Mountain Road (Exit number 247, go South).
(No coolers. No alcohol or Drugs. No unauthorized animals. Tiger Mountain Ranch & Festival of the Common Ground reserve the right to remove participants or ticket holders from the Festival grounds at their discretion. ~ All Trail Ride Participants must show negative coggins papers at the gate.)

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August District Court filings

Legal Notices

Published in the *Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 9,September 2005

Case No. AD-2005-03
In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In the matter of the adoption of M. M. M., born October 2, 1988.

Notice of Hearing Application for Termination of Paternal Rights of the Natural Father

The State of Oklahoma to: Gary Alan Madrid

Notice is hereby given that proceedings for termination of the parental rights of GARY ALAN MADRID, natural father of M. M. M., born to DINA CANTRELL on October 2, 1988, in Hereford, Texas has been filed in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma, by TOMMY CANTRELL, step-father of M. M. M. and requests that the paternal rights of the natural father be terminated, all as more fully stated in the Application on file in the office of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Court Clerk, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma.

Notice is further given that said Application will be heard before the Honorable PATRICK E. MOORE at the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, on the 15th day of August, 2005, at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m.

You are, therefore, notified that the court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the application at the time and place shown above where you will have the right to be present, have an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, and have the right to object to the termination of parental rights to said child. Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the child, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in said child's adoption, thereby terminating your rights to said child in accordance with the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Signed and dated this 6th day of July, 2005.

/s/ Patrick E. Moore, Judge of the District Court

Submitted by:
Lou Ann Moudy, OBA #13741
P.O. Box 266 / 506 West Main Street
Henryetta, Oklahoma 74437
(918) 652-3328 / (918) 652-2305 fax
Attorney for Petitioner

August Legal Retraction

A letter was received from Deputy Court Clerk stating:
The Court made an error by listing **Raymond Scott** instead of **Raymond Smith** in a traffic citation. The office of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District court would like to apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

August District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Amber McDowell v. Michael Ray Dean
  Ex-Parte
- Jonathon Watashe v. Kimberly, Beatrice & Jodie Howell
  Ex-Parte
- Jonathon Watashe v. Kimberly, Beatrice & Jodie Howell
  Ex-Parte
- Susan Gill v. Jeremy Gill
  Ex-Parte
- Ramona Hampton v. Peggy Holuby & Todd Sangl
  Ex-Parte

Traffic:

- MCN v. Richard McLaughlin
  Public Intoxication
- MCN v. Richard McLaughlin
  Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
- MCN v. Marco Gerald Hickman
  Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Patricia D. Server
  No Valid Insurance
- MCN v. Somphane Sayavong
  Expired Tag
- MCN v. Somphane Sayavong
  No Driver's License
- MCN v. Shantonia Dionne Lofton
  Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Kentressa Dawn Banks
  Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Susan Bauer
  Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Darrell Walker
  Expired Tag
- MCN v. Darrell Walker
  No Driver's License

Civil/Small Claims:

- Saber Acceptance Co., Inc. v. Marie Bruner
  Foreign Judgment
- MCN v. Margaret Johnson aka Nandin
  Petition
- Star Loans v. Mandy Harjo
  Small Claims
- Sherman Aquisition Lmtd Partnership v. Holly Hegland
  Paternity
- Security finance v. Jayme Spaniard
  Small Claims
- Discover Bank (Discover Card) v. Kelli Dawn Weimer
  Small Claims
- Saber Acceptance Co., Inc. V. Susanna Barnett
  Small Claims

Criminal Felonies:

- MCN v. Kaila Bemo
  Ct. 1 Embezzlement; Theft; & False Accounts
- MCN v. Garry D. Rogers
  Ct. 1 Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
- MCN v. Clayton Bruce Thompson
  Ct. 1. Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia

Criminal Misdemeanor:

- MCN v. Matthew West Nix
  Ct. 1 Battery
- MCN v. Richard McLauglin
  Ct. 1. Public Intoxication
- MCN v. Rodrico Donte Brooks
  Ct. 1. Possession of Illegal Drugs
- MCN v. Kathyln Wise
  Ct. 1. Public Intoxication
- MCN v. Jack Davis
  Ct. 1. Public Intoxication
- MCN v. Nellie Jackson
  Ct. 1. Public Intoxication
- MCN v. David Lee
  Ct. 1. Carrying weapons in or about buildings located on Tribal Lands
  Ct. 2. Public Intoxication

Family Domestic:

- Tribal Child Support Enforcement, Ex. Rel. Amanda Leeanne Dobbs v. Gene Allen Branson, Jr.
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Cindy Lea Dearman v. Jason Lee Davis
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Cheryl Dawn Hawkins v. Andrae Montreal Dozier
- TCSE, Ex. Rel. Angela June Vega (Furr) v. Clinton Adair Seamon

Divorce:

- Susan Nichole Gill v. Jeremy D. Gill

Legal Notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 34, Issue 9, September 2005

Case No. G 2005-02
In the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District: In The Matter of the Guardianship of the Persons and Estates of C.D. and M.L. Minors.

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

TO: Unknown Father

TAKE NOTICE that your child, C.D., date of birth October 2, 1993, is the subject of the above entitled action for guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. G 2005-02, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Persons and Estates of C.D. and M.L.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition for Appointment of Guardian* on or before the 10th day of October, 2005, or guardianship will be granted.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, District Court,
Okmulgee District

Moore

continued from page 16

smallpox, measles and the plague made the voyage from Spain to this "New World" along with rats and the cockroach.

These people and animal carried diseases and the resulting epidemics were devastating to First American populations and this population damage was unprecedented even when compared to the great European epidemics of Dark Ages. Present day ethno historians and medical historians agree the Native American depopulation rate resulting from these epidemics was at least nine million people in North American and upwards to ten million throughout the Carribean Basin. Ninety percent of the entire First American population perished prior to ca. 1800.

BOBBY HARDIN

OKEMAH — Graveside services for Bobby Gene Hardin were held July 30 at Morse Cemetery.

Bobby was born October 12, 1929 to Mary (Deer) Hardin and Henry Thomas Hardin.

He was retired from residential construction. Bob was an US Army Veteran and an avid sports fan.

Bobby was preceded in death by his father and mother; two brothers, Gerald and Winslow Hardin; and two sisters, Wanda and Joyce.

Survivors include: his wife Ruby Hardin of the home; son, Gary Hardin; daughter, Roxanne Clark; three step children, Dale Ann Wells, Karen Wood and Terry Russell; three grandchildren; one great grandchild, one sister, Doris; and five brothers, Ronald, Marshall, Dale, Van and Carol Hardin.

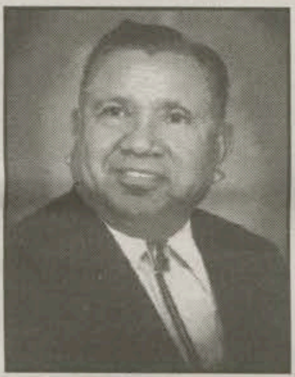
Interment was at the Morse Cemetery in Okemah.

REV. KENNETH SCOTT

ROSE — Funeral services for Rev. Kenneth Scott were held August 4 at the Cover's Chapel United Methodist Church.

Kenneth was born on October 23, 1914 in Eufaula to Katie Jesse and Daniel Scott. Kenneth attended Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas and now Haskell Indian Nations University where he designed the official Haskell Indian Logo in 1935 at the age of 19.

Kenneth majored in commercial art and painting and excelled in track and boxing. He also toured the country with a student marionette show and performed at the White House during the FDR Administration.


Scott

While at Haskell he met the love of his life, Effie. They were married April 30, 1938 in Locust Grove. After spending a short time in Muskogee with the Indian Service Road Survey Dept., Kenneth and Effie moved to Tulsa where he was employed as a Civil Engineer Technician (draftsman) at the US Army Corps of Engineers for 32 years. After retiring from the Corps he entered the ministry.

Rev. Scott attended Perkins School of Theology and pastored churches in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference at Tahlequah, Stillwell, Jay, Locust Grove and Salina. He served on the United Methodist Committee on Relief of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. While at Jay, Kenneth and Effie started a church bowling league. At Stillwell they ran the ambulance service. After retiring from the ministry in 1979, they made their home in Rose, Oklahoma. He comes from a long line of talented artists.

Scott was best known throughout his life for his multimedia artwork and his generosity in giving his artwork as gifts to all he knew. His hobbies included: bowling, coin and stamp collecting, leatherwork, fishing, drawing, painting and long drives with his wife. He was a stanch life democrat, enrolled full blood Creek Indian and voting member of the Muscogee Creek Nation. November 4th was designated as Kenneth Scott Day by the Muscogee Creek Nation in recognition of his artistic contribution of the Haskell Indian Logo design.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Effie Downing Scott; his parents; brother, Willie and sisters Bessie Lara, Lillie McIntosh, Lizzie McIntosh and Mercedes Barnett.

Survivors include: his brothers, Jackson Scott of Medford Falls, Oregon; Samuel Scott of Blanchard, Oklahoma; his children Katie Scott, Tulsa, Danny Scott of Placentia, California, Knokovtee Scott of the home; Nancy Scott Fields of Tulsa; nine grandchildren; fifteen great grand children; one great, great grandchild and numerous nieces and nephews.

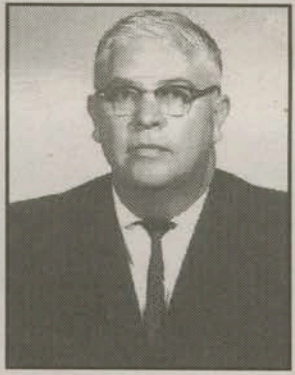
Interment was held at the Hogan Cemetery.

DANIEL DREW

EUFAULA— Funeral services for Daniel David Drew were held August 9 at the Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Paul Maxey and Rudolph Colbert officiating.

Daniel was born December 4, 1917 to Charles Henry and Bettie Mae (McCombs) Drew.

Daniel graduated from Wewoka High School in 1937. He received his Associate's Degree from Bacone College in 1940 during World War II. Daniel started in infantry, went to artillery and then was part of the Medical Corps. He was with Company I, an all-Indian company from Bacone College at first.


Drew

Drew was part of the European campaign including the Battle of the Bulge. Daniel was honorably discharged in 1945. Daniel Married Mildred Stone in 1949.

He received his Bachelor's Degree from High Point College. He then received his Master's Degree from the University of Wyoming in 1963. Daniel also attended Texas Tech University, Oklahoma University, NW Louisiana University and Capital University.

Daniel taught and coached in Oklahoma and Kansas including Bacone College where the football team he coached went to the Jr. Rose Bowl. Daniel later taught at the Fort Sill Indian School from 1956-1968. While there he was the head coach of the basketball team and the assistant football coach. Daniel taught Health Education for Indian Health Service at Philadelphia, Mississippi and Claremore, Oklahoma. He retired from Federal Service in July of 1980. Daniel was a member of and loved the Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church. Drew also attended the Broken Arrow Indian Methodist Church.

Daniel was a member of the VFW. He enjoyed fishing, crossword puzzles, card playing with family, traveling, gardening, powwows, OU football and wild onion dinners.

Survivors include: his daughters, Carolyn Kaye Drew of Oklahoma City, Wynema Ruth Drew of Houston and David Drew Garrison of Sand Springs; sons, Anthony Wayne Drew of Corpus Christi, TX, Charles Arthur Drew of Fayetteville, AK, and Daniel David Drew Jr. of St. Louis; and seven grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Charles Haskell Drew; sisters, Wynema Phrona Crowder, Edna Beatrice Paschal, Grace Helen Hawkins, Lorraine Ella Deere and Margaret Sallie Sands.

Interment was held at the Tuskegee Cemetery. A military burial was given by the Creek Nation Color Guard.

MARTHA McCOMBS

EUFAULA —Funeral services for Martha McCombs were held August 22 at the Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church.

Martha was born December 9, 1917 to Ella McIntosh McCombs Smith and James McCombs, Sr.

Martha attended Oak Grove School, Eufaula Boarding School and graduated from Sequoyah in 1938. She worked in medical records at Claremore Hospital before she joined the United States Navy and served honorably in the hospital core during World War II.

McCombs

McCombs attended Tulsa Business College in Tulsa and became employed at Phillips Petroleum Company where she worked for 30 years.

Martha enjoyed keeping up with friends of long standing, reading, and sewing. She loved hearing and singing Muscogee (Creek) hymns and speaking Creek fluently with her relatives.

Martha was a lifelong member of the Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church. She served on the Assembly Ground Committee of the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association.

Martha was proeceded in death by her parents; brothers, Dave, Solomon, James Jr., Tom and Elmer.

Survivors include: brother, Perry McCombs of Eufaula; niece and grand nephews.

Interment was held at the Tuskegee Cemetery.

Gratitude

The only word that we as a family can express is Mvto to each and everyone who supported us during the loss of our brother, especially to National Council Representative Rita Williams, Edward T. Dicey Barnett, Rev. Marvin Lowe, Bro. Wallace Gambler, Wilson Indian Community, Okmulgee Indian Community, all the women who did the cooking, and each and everyone who helped us to get the mission grounds ready. Also, thank you for the calls and donations that we received.

Timothy Bear Family

Shop talk with Jason

Nobody be alarmed! It's nothing to get worked up about. That loud noise you heard on Saturday, Sept. 10 was just a collective gasp of air coming from 85,000 crimson and cream clad Sooner football fans inside Memorial Stadium. Yes, it really happened; OU lost their season opener to TCU and with it might have lost the invincibility that has surrounded the football program for the last five years.

I'll admit it, I'm sooner born and sooner bred and I hurt just as much as the next fanatic over the loss. But cheer up folks, there is a lesson that people can learn from outcomes like this. Not just a lesson pertaining to something as trivial as a football game, but a life lesson: if you want something, then you have to take action.

After the game Bob Stoops said something that really struck a nerve in me. He spoke about how his players went about their business as if they were owed a victory, that it was their right because of the fact that they were simply Oklahoma. But the fact of the matter is, you still have to go out and win the ballgame. The other team isn't simply going to lie down and let you run over them, what would be the point of showing up! Hard work, dedication and focus are three things that the Sooners lacked on this fateful Saturday and it finally caught up to them.

But it is not the end of the world! All hope is not lost. I know it might seem crazy to say, but this loss helped the Sooners in a way that no pregame pep talk or halftime rallying cry ever could. Once a team gets a notion of invincibility, then there is no urgency, no hunger. And if a team is not striving for perfection, trying each day to get better than the last, then they will never be able to stand against an opponent that is.

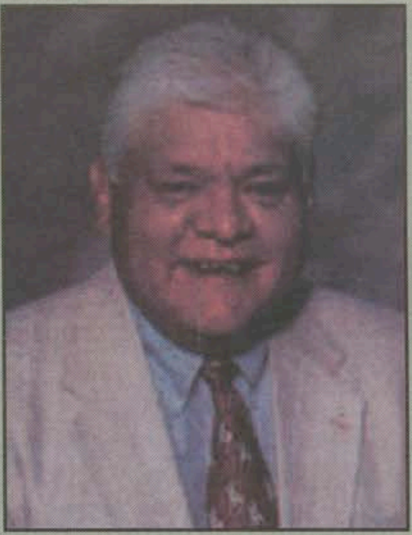
Complacency is the absolute worst thing that can happen to a sports team. Start feeling like you can't be beat and that is about the same time that somebody will trip you up. It's not just in football, its a sports epidemic. Maybe its not a coincidence that the last three World Series champions were wild card winners who didn't even claim their division. Maybe baseball's big boys should've been peaking over their shoulder at the end of the season. Ask the mighty Los Angeles Lakers about that scrappy Detroit Pistons team that snuck up on them a couple years back in the NBA Finals, or the Tampa Bay Lightning winning hockey's Stanley Cup without so much as a press clipping.

The point is somewhere in this world of messy contract holdouts, TV commercials and just downright arrogance, hard work has been put on the shelf. It might be old-fashioned but I still believe you get back only if you put in. If you forget that simple principle on a football field the good news is that all that you get is a loss. But if you did it, say, at a workplace you get fired. Something to chew on.

Moore inducted into Coaches Hall of Fame

TULSA—The Oklahoma Coaches Association Hall of Fame welcomed one of its newest members on July 24, as David "Punk" Moore became an inductee to the prestigious group.

Moore, a Creek citizen, was one of six new members to gain membership into the Hall. Moore has enjoyed a long and illustrious coaching career that has spanned over 35 years and included stints at six different schools along the way.



David "Punk" Moore

Moore received his associate's degree from Fort Scott Community College in Kansas. He went on to Northeastern State College in Tahlequah where he finished his education with a Bachelor's degree in 1969 and his Master's in 1974.

His first coaching job was at his alma mater, Tahlequah High School, where he wasn't too shabby of an athlete himself gaining nine varsity letters throughout his playing days in football, basketball and baseball. In 1978, he left Tahlequah to take the defensive coordinator position at Broken Arrow High School. He left there to fill the same post at Bixby High School.

Finally ready to take the reins of the football program and leave his coordinator duties behind him, Moore's head coaching career began at Nathan Hale High School in Tulsa. He enjoyed much success during this time as he was named a coach for two high-profile high school all-star games, the Shrine Bowl in 1987 and the Oil Bowl in 1991.

Coach Moore shifted gears again in 1992 staying in Tulsa but moving over to Will Rogers High School as the head football coach for the Ropers. After a brief stop back at Nathan Hale in 1997, Moore moved on to Catoosa High School as an offensive coordinator where he still holds that position today. In 2001, he was honored as a selection to coach the East squad in the Oklahoma All State football game.

If you are thinking that this man can only coach football, you are sorely mistaken. Before you simply label him as a football coach, consider that throughout his career he has also coached basketball, wrestling, golf and track, not exactly a one-dimensional coach.

Although he is a new member to the Coaches Association Hall of Fame, he is no stranger to the OCA. He served as the Region 7 representative from 1988-1990 and has been a regular member of the association for 36 years.

Moore is the son of Edwin Moore, Sr. and the late Sallie Beaver Moore.

Coach Moore is also a family man at home. He and his wife, Jean, have four children: David Jr., Kim, Lance and Meredith.

Okemah area youngsters getting their kicks

OKEMAH—When his young son came to him with a request to start playing sports, Dug Sharp had a dilemma on his hands.

"He said, Dad I want to play soccer," Sharp recalls. Sharp knew that soccer is not merely an unpopular sport in small-town Oklahoma, it is basically ignored. He did not want to push his son into a sport that the boy had no desire to play, so Sharp embraced the idea of his son playing soccer.

There was only one problem: there were no leagues in Okemah and worse, nobody there knew a thing about soccer.

Sharp took matters into his own hands and decided to start a league in Okemah. He contacted the Oklahoma Soccer Association to see if he could get help. Citing this particular area as being void of any soccer activity, the OSA was more than happy to help out.

Boys from Okemah practice kicking the ball properly.

photo submitted

A meeting was set up with parents in the area and the turnout was better than expected from a town the size of Okemah. The OSA passed out literature on rules and regulations of the game, they set up a board, had future meetings and the Okemah Youth Soccer Association was born.

Sharp says that the help from the OSA cannot be overstated. "The OSA has really been great as far as setting things up so that we could get this going." The association even helped sponsor a soccer festival in Okemah in late July. They passed out free T-shirts, taught rules of the game and provided continuous information to eager learners.

The league is continuing to evolve with referee training courses beginning to start and the league being fully in the hands of Sharp and volunteers in the Okemah area. For Sharp, it was especially gratifying to be able to do something for kids that might have a wider interest range in sports than what was merely available to them. "I've really been pleased with how things have turned out, so far everything we've been able to do for these kids has been real positive."

For information on the Okemah Youth Soccer Association, call (918) 650-2591.